

An aerial photograph of Bowdoinham, Maine, during autumn. The scene is dominated by dense trees with vibrant yellow, orange, and red foliage. In the upper left, a white church with a steeple is visible. Below it, a large white building with a red roof and a red awning stands on a paved area. To the right, a smaller white building is situated near a road. In the lower center, a red-roofed gazebo is located on a grassy area. A river flows through the bottom right of the image, with a wooden bridge crossing it. The sky is clear and blue.

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

**BUDGET AND WARRANT ARTICLES
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026**

THE TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM

Town Meeting

June 11, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Bowdoinham Community School

23 Cemetery Road, Bowdoinham, ME, 04008



Incorporated September 18, 1762

17th Town in the State of Maine

Settled in 1725

Total Area of 22,176 Acres

Estimated Population– 3,016 (2020 Census Data)

Town Meeting - Select Board - Town Manager - Form of Government

BUDGET AND WARRANT ARTICLES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

Printed May 2025

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Dedication

The Town received nominations for two remarkable people whose commitment and contributions to the Town of Bowdoinham and its community deserve recognition and heartfelt gratitude. Hence, this year's Annual Report is dedicated to two men who lived their lives in service to our community, married their high school sweethearts and raised their families in the place they loved most, Bowdoinham. Our Town is a little richer because of them and will forever be grateful for the service and support they have given to our community and the people in it.



Dennis C Tome

June 5, 1955, to January 21, 2024

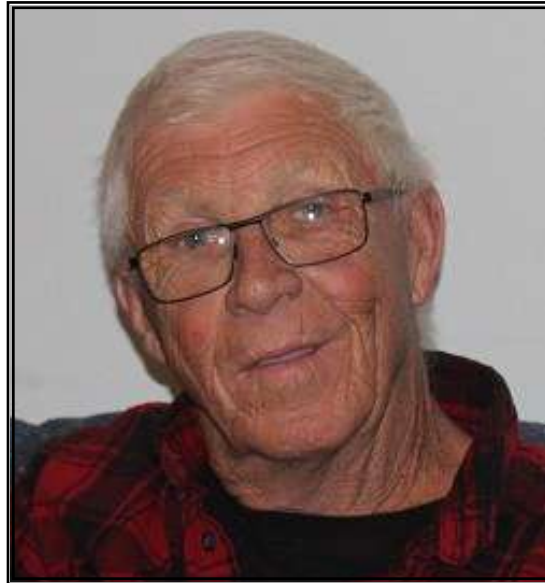


Calvin W Temple

March 28, 1953, to January 9, 2025

Dennis C Tome

June 1955 - January 2024



Dennis graduated from Brunswick High School in 1973, two years later he married his high school sweetheart, literally the girl next door, Rachelle Mateyko. They loved growing up on River Road so much they built their home next door to his parents and across the street from hers. In the years following they raised their family and supported the hometown they loved.

Like many Bowdoinhamers, Dennis loved hunting, fishing and boating on the bay as well as spending time with his family. He worked for 45 years at Bath Iron Works as a welder, pipe fitter and deck plate planner. It was only natural as retirement grew closer that he opened his own welding shop in town, Cathance Creations, providing services to local residents.

Dennis believed in giving back to his community. In his younger days he was a member of the volunteer fire department and served as town constable for several years. He coached Bowdoinham Little League and Babe Ruth teams. He was proud of his work on the Bowdoinham Waterfront Committee, which worked with the Army Corp of Engineers to create Maily Water Park.

He was an advocate of the Town Hall restoration efforts putting in many hours volunteering on early improvement projects. One can only imagine he would be pleased with the renovations and repairs that have recently been underway on the beloved old building.

More recently Dennis, along with his wife Rachelle, have been avid supporters of the Food Pantry, packing and delivering for the student backpack program.

Calvin E Temple

March 1953 - January 2025



As a youth, Calvin attended the Coombs School before graduating from Brunswick High School. He married his high school sweetheart, Jewel, and remained in Bowdoinham, serving as constable — a role that quickly revealed his natural talent for public service. It wasn't long before the Sagadahoc Sheriff's Department recognized that gift and brought him on board. Calvin would go on to serve the department with dedication and heart for 36 years.

Throughout his career, Calvin earned the respect of both his colleagues and the community. He had a unique way of guiding people — not just through enforcement, but through wisdom. Many stories have been told of how Calvin's thoughtful words or well-timed tales corrected behavior more effectively than any ticket ever could.

Calvin had a gift for making people feel welcome, valued, and at ease. If someone had a need, he was always ready to lend a hand. Bowdoinham was more than just the town where he was raised — it was the place that held his heart. He cherished every part of it, from its landscape to its people. The only thing in town possibly more social than Calvin were his beloved guinea hens.

A true storyteller at heart, Calvin could talk for hours, spinning tales of his childhood in Bowdoinham — from hunting adventures and shooting rats at the dump, to jumping ice cakes on the river and helping his father tend the ice fishing camps. These stories didn't just entertain; they preserved a way of life from a simpler time — before cell phones and video games — when kids learned through play, near-misses taught lessons, and neighbors watched out for one another.

May Calvin's stories, spirit, and deep sense of community continue to live on in the hearts and minds of all who knew him — and in the town he loved so dearly.

Town Directory

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

Monday	8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday	11:00 am - 6:00 pm
Thursday	8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Friday	8:30 am - 4:00 pm

SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING HOURS

Tuesday	12:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Thursday	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Saturday	8:00 am - 4:00 pm

MUNICIPAL HOLIDAYS 2025-2026

Independence Day	Thur 07/04/2025	New Year's Day	Tues 01/01/2026
Labor Day	Mon 09/01/2025	MLK, Jr. Day	Mon 01/19/2026
Indigenous Peoples' Day	Mon 10/13/2025	Presidents' Day	Mon 02/16/2026
Veterans Day	Mon 11/11/2025	Patriots Day	Mon 04/20/2026
Thanksgiving	Thurs 11/27/2025	Memorial Day	Mon 05/25/2026
Thanksgiving	Fri 11/28/2025	Juneteenth	Thur 06/19/2026
Christmas Eve	Tues 12/24/2025		
Christmas	Wed 12/25/2025		

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Bowdoinham Town Office	(207) 666-5531
Bowdoinham Web Site	www.bowdoinham.com
Bowdoinham Solid Waste & Recycling	(207) 666-3228
Animal Control	(207) 666-3127
Public Works	(207) 666-3503
Bowdoinham Fire Station	(207) 666-3505
Bowdoinham Community School	(207) 666-5546
Mount Ararat High School	(207) 729-2951
Mount Ararat Middle School	(207) 729-2950
MSAD 75	(207) 729-9961
Bowdoinham Post Office	(207) 666-3465
Bowdoinham Public Library	(207) 666-8405
Police, Fire, Ambulance (Emergency Only)	911
County Sheriff's Dept. (Non Emergency)	(207) 443-8201
State Police	800-452-4664
House of Representatives Message Center	800-423-2900
Maine Legislative Internet Web Site:	www.legislature.maine.gov

Town Departments

Animal Control

Contact: Cliff Daigle
Email: animalcontrol@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-3127

Assessor

Contact: Rob Duplisea
Email: assessor@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-5531 ext. 111

Cemetery Sexton

Contact: Frank Connors
Email: cemetery@bowdoinham.com

Code Enforcement

Contact: Jason Lorrain
Email: ceo@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-5531 ext. 107

Planning & Development

Contact: Yvette Meunier
Email: planning@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-5531 ext. 108

Fire & Emergency Services

Contact: Arthur Frizzle
Email: firechief@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-3505

General Assistance

Contact: Kelly Hodson
Email: deputytreasurer@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-5531 ext. 106

Harbor Master

Contact: Derek Saxon
Email: harbormaster@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-3134

Health Officer

Contact: Susan Hobart
Email: susiehobart@gmail.com
Phone: 207-666-5531

Public Works

Contact: Tobey Frizzle
Email: publicworks@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-3503

Recreation & Community Services

Contact: Jason Lamoreau
Email: recreation@bowdoinham.com
age-friendly@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-5531 ext. 110

Solid Waste and Recycling

Contact: Bryan Benson, Director
Email: recycling@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-3228

Town Clerk

Contact: Tina Magno
Email: townclerk@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-5531 ext. 101

Assistant Clerk

Contact: Kevin Hoefle
Email: assistantclerk@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-5531 ext. 102

Town Manager

Contact: Nicole Briand
Email: townmanager@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-5531

Administrative Assistant/Deputy Tax Collector

Contact: Lisa-Marie Curtis
Email: adminassistant@bowdoinham.com
Phone: 207-666-5531 ext. 109

TOWN MANAGER

NICOLE BRIAND

To the Citizens of Bowdoinham:

It has been another busy year in Bowdoinham.

Road Projects

In 2024, the Town was able to catch up on a significant amount of road paving with the following funding:

- \$1,000,000 road bond, approved at Town Meeting June 2023
- \$112,918.20 Coronavirus Local Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA Funds),
- Public Works Reserve, \$350,000 approved at Town Meeting 2023 and \$350,000 approved at Town Meeting 2024

The funding was used to complete:

- Shim pave for rutting on Browns Point Road, part of Fisher Road, Ridge Road, section 1 on Millay Road (Post Road to the highway overpass), South Pleasant Street.
- Surface paving on Pork Point Rd, Dingley Rd, Carding Machine Rd (section 2), Wildes Rd and Abbagadasset Road. These roads received their 2" base pavement, and they need to receive their 1.25" surface coat; the surface coat is recommended within three years of the base pavement.
- Grind, widen, 2" base pave, surface paving and shoulders on section 1 of Carding Machine Road.
- Shim and surface paving on Dinsmore Cross Road.
- Cemetery Road Sidewalk repairs.
- Town Office Parking Lot (surface coat to be complete in 2025).

This year at Town Meeting, voters will be asked to approve \$350,000 for the Public Works Reserve. This funding will be used to rebuild the end of Dingley Road, approximately 1,600 feet south of the existing turnaround area.

The third part of our plan is to be able to maintain our road shoulder and ditches to keep the water away from the road base. With 30 miles of roads, the Town should be maintaining 10 miles of shoulders a year. Given the current state of many miles of our ditch lines, we need to clear trees and brush before we can regrade ditches. Our Public Works crew is currently working on the most problematic areas and then will begin systematically clearing road by road as their schedule permits.

TOWN MANAGER con't...

Town Office Improvements

The parking lot was expanded to allow for better access to the handicap ramp and add more parking. The work was funded through the Bowdoinham Public Library with a \$100,000 grant from the Maine State Library and the Maine State Department of Economic and Community Development. This grant will provide long-awaited improvements to the accessibility of the Coombs Building. Once completed this fall, there will be a new entrance or "porch," an improved ramp, and new door to the library's second floor north-facing wall.

To enhance safety, we have completed electrical upgrades and are currently working on replacing the exterior stairs leading to the second floor as well as updating old flooring.

We are currently looking for ways to improve document storage, safety, and security.

Staffing

We have experienced a lot of staff turnover over the last three years. New staff have been busy with training and our "veterans" at 2-4 years are settling in. We have been using this opportunity to reorganize and develop and streamline our processes. We appreciate your patience and look forward to working with you!

If you have any questions, or ideas that you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me at the Town Office or by email at townmanager@bowdoinham.com. In closing, I would like to thank the municipal employees for all their hard work. I would also like to thank all of the Town's volunteers for your dedication to making your community a better place.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Briand

Nicole Briand

Town Manager



Animal Control

Cliff Daigle

A few friendly reminders:

- All dogs 6 months and older must be licensed and have a current Rabies Certificate.
- All dogs kept outside must be provided with proper shelter.
- If chained, the dog's chain must be at least five times the length of the dog.

Programs in Operation during 2024:

- Rabies prevention program.
- Interactive program with the community policing in the area.
- Emergency program for animals in Bowdoinham.
- Animal Response Team.
- EMH Program for animals in danger of storms/disaster.
- Animal Food Program with area Food Bank and Shelter for the Town's people in need.
- Training with Sheriff and Fire Departments on what to do with animals they may encounter and how to get the Animal Response Team out to help.

Statistics:

Animal Calls & Information	1510
Summons	21
Warnings	420

I believe that with education, together we can make a difference in the town.

Cliff Daigle, Animal Control Officer



Assessor's Agent

Rob Duplisea

The Town of Bowdoinham contracts RJD Appraisal to serve as our assessing services. RJD Appraisal is a municipal assessing firm incorporated in the State of Maine, located in Pittsfield, Maine. They were founded in 1983 and are currently serving as the assessing agent for 62 Maine communities.

RJD assessors are knowledgeable professionals who provide courteous, professional services to our community. They have limited hours in the Town Office.

For an appointment call (207) 666-5531 or email assessor@bowdoinham.com.

Cemetery Sexton

Frank Connors

Greetings, good citizens of Bowdoinham,

It is my duty to inform you that this past year, we supervised some 19 burials in two of our town's cemeteries. (Bay View & Ridge). I'm also delighted to tell you that 395 Bowdoinham veterans' graves, in 37 of our cemeteries, were marked with flags before Memorial Day. Here indeed is a duty that I consider an honor and a privilege.

I'd like to remind you that our little Town of Bowdoinham contains some 60 cemeteries, or more, and that our Town remains one of only a few towns in Maine to have a very active and hard-working Cemetery Advisory Committee and a Cemetery Sexton. Bowdoinham is also very fortunate to have a dedicated Public Works Director and department that always seems ready, willing and capable of performing annual routine maintenance in many of these cemeteries, and of course, a citizen base of volunteers which remains supportive and willing to help.

This past year, several of these cemeteries have benefited from summer clean-up efforts, and projects completed by individual Cemetery Keepers. I can also report the completed restoration of several elaborate stones at our Ridge Cemetery and removal of dead or dying trees at the Village and Ridge cemeteries continues.

In a dual capacity as Director of the Bay View cemetery, significant progress was made last fall in expanding that cemetery, and more work is scheduled for this summer. Bay View continues to be our town's major receiving cemetery, but I'll close this report by suggesting the Town consider, on a long-term basis, developing a new cemetery or expand one or several existing cemeteries. As our town grows, and years pass, this is a need that will not go away.

I thank you again for the privilege of serving our Town,

Frank Connors

Albert Stehle working on stone cleaning, restoration in the Dickinson/Maxwell Cemetery, Carding Machine Road.



Code Enforcement Officer

Jason Lorrain

The Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) and Local Plumbing Inspector (LPI) are responsible for the permitting of Internal Plumbing, Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Systems, as well as construction projects. The CEO is also responsible for approving Land Use, Floodplain Management, and certain Shoreland Zoning permits. Also, the CEO/LPI performs inspections on new construction projects that have been permitted. Likewise, inspections are also conducted by the CEO for permits and licenses to be issued by the Select Board, and to investigate complaints and report violations. The primary objective of the Code Office is to provide guidance for the applicant's proposal, so they are following the Land Use Ordinance and applicable State and Federal statutes, rules, and laws.

The CEO is the E911 Addressing Officer; therefore, property owners should contact the Code Office with any addressing questions. The CEO is the staff liaison for the Planning Board and their meetings. Any applicant seeking approval for a subdivision or a Site Plan Review Tier II or III projects must contact the CEO to begin the Planning Board application process.

In 2024, the CEO issued a total of forty-six building permits, accounting for a total of eleven new single-family dwellings and accessory dwelling units. The LPI issued forty plumbing and subsurface wastewater permits.

If the town does not have a copy of your septic permit on file, then search through the State of Maine database at: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/environmental-health/plumb/SystemSearch.htm>.

A Maine Licensed Site Evaluator is needed for a new Wastewater Disposal System to be designed, and a list of these professionals can be found at: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/environmental-health/plumb/SystemSearch.htm>.

Radon Mitigation (Reduction) Information and Links:

The Maine State advisory levels at which it is recommended that you take action to reduce the radon level in your home's indoor air is 4 pCi/l, but consider reducing levels between 2 and 4 pCi/l. The current advisory level for radon in your home's water supply is 4,000 pCi/l. This means that, at levels of 4,000 pCi/l or higher you should consider action beginning with reviewing your total radon risk (combined risk from radon in air and water). As your radon in water level gets closer to 10,000 pCi/l, you need to more strongly consider installing treatment. If you have tested your home and it is near or above these levels; learn more about radon mitigation systems and their theory of operation:

Contact the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Environmental Health: at 1-800-232-0842 or e-mail: radon.dhhs@maine.gov

If you are planning a new project on your property and are not sure if you need a permit, please contact me at the Town Office, 207-666-5531, or by email at ceo@bowdoinham.com

Respectfully Submitted by
Jason Lorrain

Year	Total Fees Collected	Plumbing Permits	CEO Permits
2024-2025	\$11,085	42	42
2023-2024	\$10,744	40	46
2022-2023	\$10,568	45	52
2021-2022	\$14,478	54	56
2020-2021	\$16,689	66	90

Fire & Rescue

Arthur Frizzle, Fire Chief

I am pleased to submit the 2024 annual report for Bowdoinham Fire & Rescue. As always, a huge thank you to all our volunteers for their dedication and commitment. Every year, as our call volume increases, we ask for more of your valuable time and resources and you always answer the call.

The department has made a few changes over this past year to enhance our abilities. Although we have not made a wholesale change to battery powered equipment, we have converted scene lighting and some small tools over to battery. This helps eliminate tripping and electrocution hazards from power cords as well as added heat or arcing in what may already be a hazardous environment. The biggest change was in our extrication tools or what most may refer to as the Jaws of Life. In a vehicle crash we use the tools to cut, crimp, spread and displace parts of the vehicle to extricate any occupants that may be trapped. Vehicle manufacturers are always designing and redesigning their vehicles to make the passenger compartment as safe as possible. They add components that are designed to crumple in specific ways to shed some of the forces of an impact while at the same time using newer metals and alloys that are far stronger to keep the passenger compartment intact. These stronger materials eventually outpaced the abilities of our extrication tools making it more and more difficult to rapidly access the injured. Our tools were bordering on 25 years old and already planned for upgrades or replacement, so we looked at our options and spoke with other departments before ultimately settling on Hurst E-tools. Yes, battery powered extrication tools. These new tools operate on a single 25.2-volt lithium-ion battery. The cut strength and spreading forces of the new e-tools far exceeds that of our old hydraulic tools. The battery allows us to eliminate the need for a gas-powered hydraulic pump as well as the need to stretch high pressure hydraulic lines from our truck. We train regularly with the new tools with the hope that we will not need them but at the same time we are very confident in knowing the new tools are up to task in tackling any of the newer vehicles that are on the road today. I would also like to note that the Bowdoinham Fire Department Association made a significant donation and saved the Town more than \$20,000.00 to make all of this possible.

The new truck that was approved at last year's Town Meeting was ordered in September with an anticipated build/delivery window of 12-18 months.

This last year kept us busy with fire and EMS handling almost 500 calls for service combined. This represents an increase of approximately 10% over 2023 and is consistent with our trend over the past 5+ years.

Building/Chimney Fire – 16	Trees/Wires Down – 18
Vehicle Fire – 2	Alarms (smoke/fire/CO etc.) - 15
Brush/Woods Fire – 7	Fuel spill/leak or other hazardous condition - 17
EMS Assist (lifting/CPR etc.) – 30	Miscellaneous (public assist/traffic detail/school event etc.) - 61
Vehicle Crash with Injuries – 26	Calls Dispatched and Cancelled – 33
Vehicle Crash no Injuries – 12	

Recruiting and retaining volunteers has become increasingly difficult. The demand for more training and a regular increase in annual call volume combined with the changing needs of the community take more resources than many are able to give. If you have the drive and commitment, whether you have the training or not, we meet every Monday evening at 6:30 P.M., feel free to stop by and check us out.

On behalf of the dedicated men and women at Bowdoinham Fire & EMS, Thank You Bowdoinham for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Arthur Frizzle



Harbor Master

Derek Saxon

We are blessed to live in a community rich with beautiful rivers and the unique Merrymeeting Bay. Our waterways offer a host of many boating activities; from rowing to kayaks and canoes to sailing, fishing and pleasure boats. Regardless of your flavor of boating, one thing should be on everyone's mind boater safety. The key to an enjoyable day on the water is to be safe and prepared. Here are a few reminders to keep you and your passengers safe:

- Always wear a life jacket. If you think you will have time to put it on after you are in the water, think again.
- Stay alert and be aware of others on the water.
- Always operate your boat at a safe and reasonable speed for your surroundings.
- Remember that the law requires you to operate at "headway speed" within 200 feet of any shoreline, including Islands, and within a marina or an approved anchorage in coastal or inland waters. "Headway speed" means the slowest speed at which it is still possible to maintain steering and control of the watercraft.
- Never drink and drive!
- Check the weather before leaving shore and carefully observe the changing weather.
- Always wear an engine cutoff switch.
- Watch out for wildlife.
- Become familiar with the water body. Look at a map for depths and any potential hazards. Lake associations, Maine guides, and local wardens can be a great resource.
- Bring plenty of water to stay hydrated and wear a hat and sunscreen to avoid overexposure to the sun.
- Always tell someone where you are going, and when you will be back.

Regards,
Derek Saxon, Harbor Master



Planning & Development

Yvette Meunier

The department processes applications that need to go before the **Planning Board**. Most commonly, that includes subdivision projects and commercial projects that may have adverse impacts to natural resources or neighbors. Due to the limited zoning in Bowdoinham, most commercial uses can occur anywhere, if they meet the applicable performance standards for site plan approval. This setup requires a lot of Planning Board oversight to prevent conflicts between new commercial and existing residential uses. This year staff guided applicants and assisted the Planning Board in reviewing and approving six applications in the calendar year, including our first subdivision in nearly a decade.

Staff support the **Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC)**, which completed its work to update our Comprehensive Plan last year which was approved at the 2024 Town Meeting. The committee has begun prioritizing their next steps to implement the plan's recommendations. Their priorities are informed by a community wide survey which identified the following actions as high priorities in descending order: Protecting Open Space in the Rural Ag District, Climate Action Plan, Ag Conservation Plan, Walkable Village Plan Update, Encouraging Growth in the Village Districts, and an Open Space Plan among others. The committee continues to gather more information and resources on these topics by hosting presentations from companies that have software for planning simulations, land trusts, and the State of Maine's Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Department, among others.

In addition, a Housing Action Subcommittee was formed which undertook land use ordinance changes focused on encouraging more housing development while balancing the desire to protect open space in the residential/agricultural district. Proposed changes included increasing the open space requirements in all districts and creating avenues for denser development. These ordinance changes did not pass at Town Meeting but the committee continues to work towards alternative methods to encourage more housing, increase density in the village districts while protecting open space in the rural areas.

Also, the CPC re-enrolled Bowdoinham in the Community Resilience Partnership which is a free program with access to receive no-match grants. This program has funded the LED streetlights and interior lighting upgrades and the shoreline stabilization project. In 2024, the Town applied for a Variable Refrigerant Flow HVAC system for the Old Town Hall through the program.

Community and Economic Development work is funded through two TIF (Tax Increment Financing) Districts. The first was approved at the Town Meeting in June 2000, then amended at the Town Meeting in June 2019; the funds for this district come from property taxes on Northeast Pipeline properties located in Bowdoinham. The second was approved at Town Meeting in June 2014. The funds for this district come from property taxes from a portion of Central Maine Power Company's properties located in Bowdoinham.

The goal of the department is to support the existing businesses of Bowdoinham through promotion of their services, educational opportunities, community awareness, and networking. The Department strives to develop and attract sustainable businesses to Bowdoinham that will reflect the high quality of life and strong sense of community that Bowdoinham is known for. Finally, the department develops, organizes, and coordinates community-enhancing events to bring together the citizens of Bowdoinham.

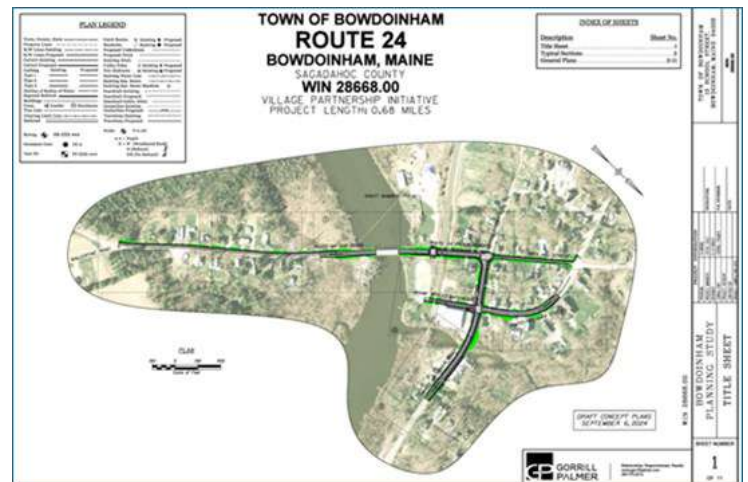
The **Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC)** facilitated a CMP TIF amendment which now allows TIF funds to be used for improvements made to the Coombs Municipal Building, the Old Town Hall, the yellow building at the new waterfront park, and for village welcoming improvements including public art displays for economic development.

Planning & Development, con't..

CDAC continues to work on programs and projects to strengthen local businesses. Committee members began drafting an Artists/Artisans/Microentrepreneurs Needs and Marketing Assessment survey with the goal of understanding what resources, events, and venues are desirable, and how we can better support their current and future revenue streams. The committee continues to support investigating the potential use of the yellow building at the new waterfront park for recreational, economic or community development purposes. The committee also got approval from DOT to install two new Business Directional Signs for the Farmers' Market placed on Route 201 to help drive traffic to the market.

To beautify the downtown village to attract further investment and enhance Bowdoinham's identity as a community supporting the arts, CDAC developed a plan to commission a mural on the west side of the bathhouse at Maily Waterfront Park. The goal is for this to be a series of installations of public art capturing some of the spirit of Bowdoinham. An unveiling of the mural is planned for Celebrate Bowdoinham in 2025.

Further, CDAC continues to work on implementing the Walkable Village Plan. The committee began working in earnest with DOT on the **Village Partnership Initiative** project to design and publicly vet permanent solutions to safely move pedestrians across Rt. 24 at the Main Street intersection, as well as between the two waterfront parks. This included soliciting for, selecting and hiring consultant Gorrill Palmer, hosting public meetings, site walks, and gathering public input at Town events and through an online survey. Further, Right of Way work on the **2023 DOT BikePed grant** to extend sidewalk along Main Street from its intersection with School Street to the intersection with Post Road has begun. In 2024 CDAC also applied for a **2024 DOT BikePed grant** for an additional ½ mile of sidewalk to extend from the Main Street/ Post Road intersection down Post Road to its intersection with Center Street to complete a walking circuit. An award announcement is anticipated for 2025.



In 2024 work continued on implementing the **Waterfront Master Plan**, which was approved at Town Meeting in 2019. Phase I of the project included the installation of a new access road and parking areas, a 12' precast concrete plank boat launch ramp, an ADA compliant non-motorized boat launch, paved parking adjacent to the launch, and associated utility and sitework which was completed in 2024. Much of this work was supported by a \$239,918.00 Small Harbor Improvement Program grant and \$66,022 MDOT Maine Boating Facilities Fund through the Bureau of Parks and Lands grant, with the remainder coming from the CMP TIF.

Additionally, the Town was awarded a \$420,833 grant (23-00909) from the Land and Water Conservation Fund which is managed by the US Department of the Interior, with stateside oversight jointly provided by the NPS & DACF's Grants & Community Recreation Program ,to begin Phase II. This includes earthwork such as grubbing, filling, and grading, road and parking improvements, utility installation, stormwater management, landscaping including removal of invasive species, shoreline stabilization, and planting new native trees, and installation of pedestrian pathways. The shoreline stabilization was completed in 2024 with the additional financial assistance from a \$50,000 no-match Community Resilience Partnership program grant. The project included approximately 200 linear feet (lf) of vegetated wall, 115lf of tree root wad, 75lf stone armor, and 140lf of double coir log rows. Additionally, approximately 4,000sf of freshwater coastal wetland was restored. Further, the Town was awarded a \$15,000 Project Canopy grant to put towards landscaping in 2025.

Planning & Development, con't..

Moreover, the Town applied for and was awarded a \$93,420 Community Outdoor Recreation Assistance Recovery Program grant to further offset costs for interpretive and wayfinding signage at both Maily and the new park which is also covered under the LWCF scope of work. The project is also being supported by \$30,000 from the Miriam B. and Linwood B. Rideau Memorial Trust as a match. This project will result in the creation and installation of approximately 10-12 interpretive signs within the Maily Waterfront Park, the new park, and within the Cathance River Trails on high pressure laminate up to 20" x 30" in size about local history, fauna and flora, and other park features. In addition, wayfinding signage to provide all person's access will be installed in the new park and within the Cathance Meadow Trail system.

Also, the Town submitted and was awarded a \$38,000 BRIC grant from FEMA to support investigating mitigation strategies to protect and enhance the Riverview House, aka Yellow Building, at the new waterfront park. The project is planned to start in 2025.

The **Merrymeeting Trail** is a 25-mile planned trail and bikeway connecting Topsham, Bowdoinham, Richmond, and Gardiner, running along the unused Lower Road rail corridor and linking the Kennebec River Rail Trail in Augusta to the Androscoggin River Bicycle and Pedestrian Path in Brunswick. In 2023, the Rail Corridor Use Advisory Council, is made up of members from each community along the trail, recommended the trail be primarily for non-motorized use, with several sections possibly being used by motorized vehicles like ATVs, to the MDOT Commissioner. It is expected that the full legislature will be asked to weigh in on the project in 2025. Department staff continue to support the project with marketing, communications, and outreach as the trail development progresses.

The **Ice & Smelt Festival Week** was held February 2-4. Events included an open reception at the Merrymeeting Arts Center, a live storytelling and supper to benefit the Public Library at Merrymeeting Hall, a to-go soup supper fundraiser at the Food Pantry, a potluck and dance party at Watersong, and an open gallery at the Cathance River Art Gallery. Other events include ice skating, sledding, and cross-country skiing at the recreation fields.

The **Summer Concert Series** ran late June through August. There were 10 concerts scheduled. In total three of ten concerts were rained out, two in June and one in August. Of the seven concerts six included benefit dinners serving 70-85 attendees on average.

Open Farm & Studio Day happened on July 28, 2024 and featured 24 local farms and artists (up by one from 2023) which open their venues and studios to the community on the fourth Sunday in July. New this year is the development of self-guided walking, biking, and driving itineraries. Overall, 66% of hosts experience an increase in attendance.

On August 17th the Town partnered again to host the **Le Tour de Bowdoinham** charity bike ride which saw 75+ riders from Portland to Augusta and included members of four area bike groups. They raised over \$1,085 and 310.2 pounds of food, which was 10 pounds more than last year! About 35 stayed after to dine at Three Robbers and several also attended the Farmers' Market. Thanks to Merrymeeting Arts Center and Three Robbers Pub for the keepsakes and post ride snacks! And a big thanks to Bowdoinham's very own Ken Sandoin for organizing this event again. We look forward to hosting the fourth one in 2025!

On September 14, 2024 **Celebrate Bowdoinham** was held and the weather cooperated. This event offers a venue for local artisans to showcase their products and is a major fundraising event for local non-profits like the Food Pantry,

Planning & Development, con't..

Girl Scouts, Mt. Ararat Senior Class, Bowdoinham Fire & Rescue, the Bowdoinham Public Library, the Old Town Hall, and many more. There were lots of local talent featured at the gazebo and plenty of activities for the kids from the Duck Derby, Face Painting, Lobster Crate Races, magic shows, and more.

The **Holiday Festival** included many holiday fundraising events such as wreath decorating to benefit the Public Library and the Community School craft fair. The Guild of Artisans hosted sales over the course of the first two weekends in December at Merrymeeting Hall and Cathance River Gallery. Merrymeeting Arts Center was also open both weekends. Other events include tree lighting and carols at the Fire Station and a cookie decorating party at the Food Pantry.

As always, **The Bowdoinham News** issues six volumes per year in the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

For more information on The Bowdoinham News or information related to the Planning & Development Department, please contact Yvette Meunier, Director of Planning & Development at 666-5531, planning@bowdoinham.com, or you can visit the Town's website (www.bowdoinham.com) or Facebook page.

My sincere thanks to the committee volunteers which have worked extremely hard to bring these projects into fruition. Also, a huge thank you to all of the organizations and volunteers which make these annual events possible. I look forward to continuing to advance the community's vision for the future, building on the success of the past.

Respectfully Submitted,
Yvette Meunier
Director of Planning & Development

In 2024 the Town benefited from the TIF districts in a variety of ways:

Sheltering tax revenues from the Natural Gas Pipeline and CMP parcels has the effect of devaluating the Town. This is a positive impact on the amount of subsidies the Town qualifies for. If there was no TIF in 2024 the Town **would have lost \$290,559** in school subsidies.

The devaluation also lessens the amount of taxes owed to the County. Without the TIF Bowdoinham would have **had to pay \$43,648** additional dollars to the County in 2024.

The devaluation also has a positive effect on revenue sharing. Bowdoinham **received an additional \$31,967** from the Maine Revenue Service in 2024 that would have been owed if there was no TIF.

Said another way, Bowdoinham **would have lost \$366,175** in subsidies and owed more taxes without the TIF. Instead, we keep all of that money and reinvest it into our Town.

The TIF can be used as matching funds to leverage grants to fund projects approved in our TIF program instead of using the general fund (your tax dollars). Your state and federal tax contributions support these grant programs, so we should take advantage of them to get our money back and never pay full price on a project.

Here are some examples of what the TIF pays for:

- Village Development – public infrastructure improvements (e.g. sidewalks, crosswalk study)
- Old Town Hall - Renovations to town-owned buildings which provide economic development
- Events & Marketing (e.g. Celebrate, Open Farm & Studio Day, Bowdoinham News)
- Merrymeeting Trail - design, development and maintenance
- New Waterfront Park development

Public Works

Tobey Frizzle, Foreman

It has been another busy year, the 2024 Construction season saw many projects. Public Works has completed the gravel work on the Library parking lot along with the sidewalk under drain on Cemetery Rd. Most of the season was spent on Carding Machine Rd rebuilding section #1, cutting back trees, replacing culverts, and gravel work widening the road. The road has been completed, and its base coat of pavement has been put down. Replaced 3 culverts on Ridge Rd and 1 on Millay Rd. The plowing season went well even with the back to back storms that we had in February that were a little trying

As spring and summer arrive the department will once again be busy handling many projects around Town. Mowing, clean up, maintenance and construction projects take a lot of time and effort, our crew does their best to meet the challenge. Your patience and support are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Tobey Frizzle

Public Works Foreman



Recreation & Community Services

Jason Lamoreau

The Recreation Department's Mission Statement: *To reach all residents from pre-school to teens to adults of all ages to connect you with Wellness and Community based opportunities.*

Many of our programs and collaborations extend beyond Bowdoinham. We were fortunate this year to collaborate with our surrounding town's recreation departments, SAD 75, Bowdoin College, Home Depot, our Fire Department, Merrymeeting Arts Center, Lost Valley Ski Area, Coastal Running League, Winter Kids, Dick's Sporting Goods, MTN Sports, Maine Celtics as well as others. The Recreation Dept serves residents by developing programs, continuing annual expectations and informing you of surrounding community programs and events.

Continuous Recreation Communication Available on:

www.BowdoinhamRec.com

Facebook page "Bowdoinham Recreation Dept."

"The Bowdoinham News" newsletters

Email: recreation@bowdoinham.com or call Director directly 207-666-3101

On-Going Perks:

- Family Swim Sundays at Bowdoin College Free for all SAD 75. Fall and Winter
- Open Gym in the winter months for adults and children
- Ice Rink, Tennis/Pickleball/Basketball Courts, Recreation Fields, Skate Park and Trails open to the public
- Discounted Tickets for: Funtown/Splashtown, Aquaboggin, York's Wild Kingdom, Maine Celtics & Maine Mariners

Recreation & Community Services, con't..

-Free Lending: cross country skis/boots, skates and (new this year!) snowshoes available to borrow at the town office.

Summary of Programs/Activities of 2024-25

-Basketball

K-6th grade 68 children and 15+ volunteers to coach, keep the book and run the clock. K - 2nd is our "Little Dribblers" program with high school level players and coaches that focuses on drills/skills to prepare for team play.

Many 3rd - 6th graders go on to play an extended season with the Ararat Youth Basketball League travel teams. Teams include a combination of players from every town in our district.

-Baseball/Softball/T-ball:

K-7th grades - 8 teams/89 children/15+ volunteer coaches, volunteer ump's, field support, snack shack volunteers and countless parent involvement. We also hosted the Maine 10U Cal Ripken District #4 Championship this year!

Many players go on to play an extended season in the all-stars in our Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth League. Teams include a combination of players from every town in our district. Our Ararat 10U Softball team brought home a very strong 3rd place finish in the Maine State Tournament this year!

-Celebrate Bowdoinham Annual Recreation BBQ fundraiser with outdoor games raised over \$1,000.

- Cross Country Running: Grades 1st - 6th with over 30 runners this year. We, once again, hosted meets at the Cathance Trails at the new Waterfront Park in both the spring and fall sessions.

-Lost Valley Ski & Snowboard Lessons – 3rd -7th grade Bowdoinham students participate in Friday night skiing and snowboarding lessons (along with other district schools) in Jan/Feb. Other residents can get discounted lift tickets.

-Ice Skating Rink / X-County Ski & Snowshoeing Trails / Sledding hill at the rec fields. Winter of 2024-25 was (finally) a great one for outdoor activities. Early winter saw amazing ice for skating and wrapped up with great snow for sledding, skiing and snowshoeing.

-Summer Art Camp New for this year, in partnership with Merrymeeting Arts and Bowdoinham Community School we were able to offer four week-long sessions of Summer Art Camp with Ms. Katie Hudak. 50 students participated in Grades K -5th.



Recreation & Community Services, con't..

-Adult Pickleball: Wednesdays in the school gymnasium during the colder months, then moves to the outdoor courts in warmer months.

-Adult Volleyball: Indoors in the Community School Gym winter/ Rec fields summer

-Adult Walking: Outdoor walking trails year round. Inside the school gym in the colder months.

-Age-Friendly Bowdoinham – See town Calendar on the website for activities



Repairs conducted Summer of 2024:

Work continued on the drainage of the Recreation Ballfields on Ridge Road.
New fabric homerun fence was installed on North Baseball Field
“Skin” layer (3”-4”) of stone dust applied to Pertel Field
Spring 2025 will include rebuilding of dugout on first base side of Pertel Field.

Committees: Ferrier Scholarship, Safety Committee for the Town of Bowdoinham, Advisory Committee for Age-Friendly Bowdoinham, Get Active Maine, Maine Cash of United Way.

Board Support: Ararat Youth Basketball League, Ararat Baseball, Ararat Youth Softball

Fundraising Efforts are continuous within every season including the Snack Shack use, increased “out of town” sponsorships, homerun fence banners and discounted ticket sales to help reduce program registration fees. We will also be hosting another Cal Ripken Baseball District Tournament in the summer of 2025. Special thanks this year to Mrs. Nancy Curtis for the donation of a beautiful, hand-made tee shirt quilt that we were able to raffle.

Looking for Volunteers to Support Additional Programs:

Walking/Running Group for 2nd-5th grade/Instructors K-2nd grade basketball/Youth Tennis/Kayaking/Archery, Summer Art and Nature Camp

In closing, we would like to extend a thank you to all who volunteered their time this past year to make our programming successful. Without the support of our volunteers, these valuable programs for children and adults in our community would not be possible!

Jason Lamoreau – Recreation & Community Services Director

Solid Waste & Recycling

Bryan Benson

The Solid Waste Department staff would like to thank the residents of Bowdoinham for carefully following the Solid Waste and Recycling rules adopted by the Select Board in November of 2024.

Over the past year, management and staff have worked to make improvements to the program with the goal of increasing efficiency and decreasing expenses. With the addition of our new recycling compactor, we reduced our transportation costs by \$12,817 dollars, in the first 11 months of use. We also reduced our Municipal Solid Waste disposal by \$8,960 dollars.

In an effort to keep costs down, the Solid Waste Staff at the recycling facility have been enforcing the Town's requirement for vehicle decals. Decal enforcement is necessary to confirm that only residents of Bowdoinham are utilizing the program. All residents / property owners may acquire a decal at the Town Office or at the Recycling facility, free of charge.

Residents interested in participating in the development of the Town's program are welcome to attend the Solid Waste Committee meetings. Information regarding the place and time of the meetings is available on the Town's calendar.

Residents can keep up to date by monitoring the Town's website and following us on Facebook.

Respectfully Submitted, Bryan Benson
Solid Waste and Recycling Director

2024 BY THE NUMBERS

Cardboard	81,700 Lbs.	Paint	391 Gallons
Fluorescent tubes	902 bulbs	CFL	212 bulbs
HID	5 bulbs	Mercury Vapor	16 bulbs
Lithium-ion	279 ea.	Nicad	109 ea.
Lead Acid	89 ea.	CRT tv's	27 ea.
Flat panel tv's	51 ea.	Mercury Therm.	3 ea.
PCB Ballast	16 ea.	Scrap metal	83,800 Lbs.
Cell phones	36 ea.	Laptops	21 ea.
Printers	33 ea.	CPU's	12 ea.



Town Clerk

Tina Magno

Organizing, organizing, it is a constant thing here in the Office.

I would like to express much appreciation and thanks to the dedicated, knowledgeable, and helpful Election Clerks who took the time to help during the busy times at these past Elections. Your help makes a difference in how well elections run; I cannot thank you enough. This year was a big one, we had some new Election workers and as busy as it was, you would have thought we were having a party. We kept it tight, but happy and fun at the same time. I know I could not do it without all of you.

Thank you to Rachelle Tome, our Warden. Her patience, friendliness and knowledge of elections has made each year run smoother than the last. We are making an effective team! All her dedication and support to the Town and me during the Elections is invaluable to me. I love her in this role as she is patient, cool and level-headed, and knows just what needs to be done and what needs to be changed for future Elections.

Thank you to the Town Staff for all your efforts in helping Elections run smoothly in the office, it takes a village.

A sincere thank you to Public Works, Tobey Frizzle, Bryan Benson, Hunter Magno, Bob Ridgell III and Thomas Egan for your hard work with the set-up and breakdown of all the Election equipment. You are all amazing. I could not do what I do without you. You work hard for our Town, and you do it with a positive attitude and a willingness to help others. Thank you for all you do! Thank you for your late hours and early mornings, when I drag you in. You all are the best!!

Maine requires you to register your dog in the Town which you live by January 31st of each new year. The new Maine Online dog registration is up and running. Note: the Town does not receive this information till the end of each month. There have been some challenges with this new system but we are working to make it all come together.

We have updated our dog information. This is an ongoing process that requires help from the public. Please update us if you no longer have a dog or have a new dog so we can keep our records current.

In 2025, my main goal is to make sure our office is up to date with all the correct information we can get for our customers. There may be times clerks will ask for birthdates, phone numbers and addresses, this is to keep our records updated, which helps locate, correct and avoid errors.

We do our best to make sure you are informed and updated as much as possible on all future Town meetings and Elections. Please look at the Town's Newsletter, Website, Facebook as well as postings in the Office of all upcoming events and daily happenings.

Again, thank you all for the kind words you have given us, and we do our best to be as friendly as possible in our office.

Thank you all again for such a momentous year and all the wonderful comments on how much you have enjoyed coming back to the Town Office. We hope to make it even better in the coming years! If there is anything you would like us to do, please do not hesitate to contact me here in the Office anytime.

Sincerely,

Tina L. Magno
Town Clerk

Town Clerk, con't..

March 5, 2024, Primary Election

Special Town Meeting

Total number of Republican President Ballots Cast – 280
 Total number of Democratic President Ballots Cast - 231

May 16, 2024 – School District Budget Meeting

26 Articles on the Ballot
 All Articles Passed
 15 Bowdoinham Residents in attendance out of 2718 Voters

June Town Meeting – June 1, 2024

46 Articles on the Meeting Warrant
 193 Residents in attendance out of 2718 Voters
 Article 4 was not adopted.
 Article 5 was not adopted.
 Article 7 was not adopted.

June 14, 2024 – Primary Election

Democratic Votes – 247
 Republican Votes – 167
 Green Independent – 8
 Region 10 Totals –
 Article I – 428
 Article II – 426
 Public Count for June Primary is 854

November 5, 2024 – Primary & Municipal Election

Total number of Voters -2128 out of 2718 Voters
 Select Board Cast of Votes – 2071
 School Board Cast of Votes – 6213 – 2832 blanks
 Municipal Officer’s Order of votes – 2071

Vital Records

There were 26 Births within Bowdoinham this year.



There were 20 Marriages within the Town Bowdoinham this year. Congratulations to all!

Party A	Party B	DATE
Allison Storm	Benjamin R Dearnley	02/21/2024
Haley A Frizzle	Jahkeik J Registe	02/29/2024
Lisa Marie Beihoff	David W Nery	03/18/2024
Lisa Ann Hart	Edward William Jones	05/01/2024
Riley Leanne Robertson	Nathan Richard Taylor	05/17/2024
Olivia N Barberi	Nicholas W Wall	05/18/2024
Liberty Jean Chestnut	Nicholas Frank Lebeau	05/25/2024
Jeanine M Beaudoin	Marion L Blasziez	06/15/2024
Jessica A Mains	William W Beauregard	08/03/2024
Amanda L Rhodes	Samuel L Berry	08/11/2024

Vital Records, con't..

Marriages continued...

Party A	Party B	DATE
Caitlyn E Allen	Aaron B Pelletier	08/11/2024
Danielle J Sanders	Bradley P Bailey	08/24/2024
Sara J Lamb	Garrett J Bolduc	09/14/2024
Susan E Childers	Jodie Lynn Hermann	09/16/2024
Karla E Gonzalez	Enrique A Rivas	09/21/2024
Wendy R Gray	Chad M Holloway	10/12/2024
Charlotte Cramer	Joshua E Dennison	10/26/2024
Brianna E Beebe	Peter Charles Owen	11/02/2024
Katharine R Wallace	Alden S Robinson	11/26/2024
Marie Nichole Evers	Matthew B Graham	12/19/2024

There were 35 Deaths this year

NAME	DOD	NAME	DOD
Alexander, Nancy Ann	10/16/2024	Leech, Jerald Duane	1/26/2024
Bray, Steven P	9/30/2024	Libby, George E	6/29/2024
Case, Frederic Felix	12/13/2024	Morin, Roland F	4/23/2024
Caswell, Jacqueline Edith	1/17/2024	Mulldune, Darcy D	8/13/2024
Curtis, John Charles Sr.	6/1/2024	Nunes, Robert D	10/11/2024
Cutko, Barbara T.	3/18/2024	Patterson, Dennis Lynn	9/26/2024
Desjardins, Andy Lee	4/15/2024	Real, Rhonda Irene	1/29/2024
Dunbar, Richard Sr.	1/18/2024	Rodrigue, Scott R	6/11/2024
Fitzpatrick, David Marshall	3/28/2024	Sharples, Sharon Ann	8/3/2024
Frizzle, Gordon R	12/22/2024	Shama, Daniel J	10/3/2024
Gowell, Gregory Alan	7/3/2024	Smith, Jennifer Helen	6/9/2024
Graves, Jill Kay	1/2/2024	Sproul, Richard Lockart Jr	7/16/2024
Gray, Richard L	11/29/2024	Stanley, Donald Gilmore	3/3/2024
Haley, Richard George	4/13/2024	Stevens, Matthew Kirk	7/17/2024
Hanson, Alan Lee	6/5/2024	Stoebe, Frances Anne	5/19/2024
Jones, Laurie A	8/8/2024	Tetu, Michael M	10/14/2024
LaPointe, Mortimer F	11/24/2024	Tome, Dennis C.	1/21/2024
Leavitt, Bruce	4/25/2024		

Boards and Committees

Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham

Ann Hartzler
Debra Smith
Karen Mayo
Lois Smith
Mary Kelley
Maureen Booth- Chair
Contact: Jason Lamoreau
age-friendly@bowdoinham.com
Meets 2nd Monday at 1:30 pm

Board of Appeals

David Jones
Ed Friedman
Melinda Norko
Sylvia Hultman
William Bryan
Contat: Tina Magno
townclerk@bowdoinham.com
Meets as needed

Bowdoinham Water District Board of Trustees

Brant Miller
David Reinheimer
Donald Lamoreau, Chair
Gordon Johnson
Stephen Cox
Contact: Robin Verow
bowdoinhamwater@ne.twcbc.com
Meets 3rd Tuesday at 6 pm

Cemetery Advisory Committee

Elaine Diaz, Vice Chair
Heiyoung William Oh
Linda Temple
Nina Mendall, Chair
Patricia Oh
Peter Mendall
Contact: Tobey Frizzle
pworks@bowdoinham.com
Meets 1st Thursday at 4 pm

Community Development Advisory Committee

Ian McConnell , Secretary
Jean de Bellefeuille, Chair
John Scribner, Vice Chair
Laleah Parker
Contact: Yvette Meunier
planning@bowdoinham.com
Meets 1st Tuesday at 6:30 pm

Comprehensive Planning Committee

David Asmussen
Jan Marks
Jason Lamoreau
Peggy Christian
Robert Schott
William Stanton
Contact: Yvette Meunier
planning@bowdoinham.com
Meets 2nd Wednesday at 6 pm



Boards and Committees

Emergency Medical Services

Dave Pascarella
David Lewis
Jason Lamoreau
Melinda Norko
Sarah Gardella
Contact: Arthur Frizzle
firechief@bowdoinham.com
Meetings to be announced

Finance Advisory Committee

David Engler, Chair
George Christopher, Vice Chair
Jeff Lauder
Nina Mendall
Stephen Smith
Contact: Nicole Briand
townmanager@bowdoinham.com
Meets seasonally

Planning Board

Chris Vonderweidt
Justin Schlawin
Nathan Drummond, Chair
Reeve Wood
Richard Joyce, Associate
Tracy Krueger
William Shippen, Associate
Contact: Jason Lorrain
ceo@bowdoinham.com
Meets 4th Thursday at 6 pm

Select Board

Allen Acker
Jason Hodde
Joanne Joy, Chair
Mark Favreau, Vice Chair
Peter Feeney
Contact: Nicole Briand
townmanager@bowdoinham.com
Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Solid Waste Committee

Patrick McDonough
Paul Denis
Paul Tabor
Wendy Cunningham, Chair
Contact: Bryan Bensom
Meetings to be announced

Town Hall Committee

Betsy Steen
Kate Brinsmade
Rachelle Tome
Sarah Stapler
Contact: Nicole Briand
townmanager@bowdoinham.com
Meets 4th Wednesday at 2:30

We want to thank the dedicated Bowdoinham Residence who volunteer to serve on our Town's Boards and Committees. We are grateful for your willingness to give of your time, energy, and talents. Your support of and dedication to our town helps our town continue to thrive as we serve the people in our community.

Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham

*The vision of Age Friendly Bowdoinham is to foster changes that will make Bowdoinham
a better place to live for people of all ages and abilities.*

The Age Friendly Committee maintained existing activities in 2024 while expanding its efforts to make Bowdoinham a place where residents of all ages and abilities want to live. Our success has been possible thanks to a team of dedicated Committee members, partnerships within the Town, networking with other communities, the financial support from the Town, and public and private grant opportunities. Below is a summary of our programs and a preview of our work for the coming year.

Social Engagement

Studies show that staying connected with friends, family and community has a positive impact on an individual's physical and mental health, happiness and even lifespan.

Bridge and Cribbage take place weekly at the Fire House. All levels are welcome to join.

Walking club at the Community School once a week during the winter months.

Pickleball at the Community School during winter months and at the recreation fields in-season.

Luncheons for 35-40 guests are held most months at the Fire House. Our appreciation goes out to Judy Hardin for leading the cooking crew and to the countless volunteers who serve delicious homemade dinners and clean up. New volunteers are always welcomed.

Classes/Programs: These included a class on flower arranging; a presentation on Maine's Death with Dignity Law in partnership with the Library; an overview of Sagadahoc County's Wandering Person Program that alerts officials in real time when someone cannot be found. The Committee encourages residents to come forward with ideas for classes or speakers that we can sponsor.

Trips: Cruise trips were arranged through the Maritime Museum to explore the lighthouses of the Kennebec River and Merrymeeting Bay. The Committee wants to expand the types and frequency of trips and to seek funding sources so that everyone is able to participate.

Supports for Independent Living

Most of us want to stay in our homes as we age. Age Friendly offers a wide range of services that help make living at home easier

Rides in Neighbors' Cars is a volunteer-led program offering rides to older residents and persons living with disabilities in Bowdoinham. In 2024, 511 rides were offered totaling 12,241 miles to medical appointments, grocery shopping and personal errands. There is no fee for the service although donations are accepted. If you have time to spare, however little, please call us to learn about becoming a volunteer driver.

Medical Equipment Loan Program: Due to the generosity of residents donating their lightly used equipment, the Medical Equipment program is able to offer short or long term use of wheelchairs, bath benches, lift chairs, knee scooters, and electric mobility scooters. Arrangements can be made through the Town Office.

Age Friendly Bowdoinham, con't...

Twin Town Handy Brigade: In partnership with Richmond, this program offers help in doing small repairs (e.g. reinforce front steps) and minor household chores (install shelving, change light bulbs).

The Sand Brigade: Residents no longer able to carry their own sand can call the Fire Department to deliver buckets of sand during the winter.

Tax Prep Services: Each year the Committee works with CA\$H Maine to prepare federal and state tax returns for Bowdoinham residents. As a result of this service, residents have been able to receive Property Tax Fairness Credits of up to \$2000 or State Tax Fairness Credit for up to \$150 for an individual or \$270 for joint filers.

Overcoming Barriers

Personal fears, lack of transportation, financial concerns, system shortages and failures, and lack of information can each keep individuals from getting the support they need.

Bowdoinham Community Connections: In September 2024, Bowdoinham was selected as one of 12 sites in Maine to participate in an initiative of the Governor's Cabinet on Aging in collaboration with the UMaine Center on Aging and Maine's 5 Area Agencies on Aging. The purpose of the pilot is to help individuals overcome barriers to receiving essential services and to follow-up with participants to make certain that services are received and having the desired outcome. Since inception, 11 local volunteers have been trained and are now meeting with residents to assist in various ways, such as filling out applications for assistance, finding resources to address service gaps, identifying options to engage in hobbies and social opportunities, or navigating the array of benefits and services. If you or someone you know is having difficulty getting the care they need, please contact outreach@bowdoinham.com.

Safety and Accessibility

Our built environment and public safeguards contribute to how easily we can get around, how secure we feel in our home, and our ability to engage in community life.

Crosswalks, sidewalks and traffic: The Committee worked closely with the Comprehensive Planning Committee and the Community Development Advisory Committee in seeking support and funding to identify critical areas in Town that pose a threat to safety and to develop plans to manage pedestrian, vehicular and bike traffic in the Village.

Sagadahoc County Sheriff's Office Alert System: The Town is working with the Sagadahoc County Sheriff's Office to provide registered individuals with alerts on storms, outages, and other emergencies. Known as RAVE, more information about how to register is at the Town Office.

Winter Kits: For the 4th year, the Committee distributed kits to assist at-risk residents during times of power outages and other emergencies. Kits included items such as solar powered radio, flashlights, blanket, manual can openers and other essentials to help get through outages that may keep residents homebound.

Waterfront Trails: The Committee worked with the Comprehensive Planning Committee and Community Development Advisory Committee to secure funding through Maine's Office of Outdoor Recreation for directional and interpretative signage at the newly designed waterfront trails.

Age Friendly Bowdoinham, con't...

Shade Canopy: The removal of the box elder tree at the Waterfront meant that older adults and others sensitive to the sun were discouraged from participating in summer activities such as summer concerts and the farmers' market. We are grateful to the Lifelong Communities of UMaine for awarding Bowdoinham with a mini grant that will fund the purchase of a shade canopy that will be installed this summer.

Plans for 2025

Community Paramedicine Study: The Age Friendly Committee, in partnership with the Town EMS Committee, obtained funding from the Maine Health Access Foundation to develop a feasibility study and operations plan for a Community Paramedic Program. The study will review demand, requirements and potential models for providing support and services by paramedics who are certified to offer non-emergency services in the home under the authorization of a physician or advanced practice provider. Generally, paramedic services are provided to residents requiring (1) care following hospital or ER discharge; (2) management of chronic diseases; or (3) other non-emergency care.

Sustainability: As described above, the Bowdoinham Community Connections program is rapidly becoming a vital link to support residents who face barriers in obtaining essential services. Although we are optimistic that the statewide pilot will demonstrate the value of community-based connectors, funding beyond August 2025 is not certain. The Committee and our statewide partners will work together to assess what we have learned from the pilot and consider options for maintaining a local community presence to assist residents to overcome barriers to care.

Building Awareness: Despite our efforts to communicate about our activities through a monthly email calendar, articles in the Town's bimonthly Newsletter and postings around town, we often hear that residents are not familiar with Age Friendly or how our programs can support them. We hope to revamp our website to be more user friendly, to offer multiple pathways for residents to learn about events and programs, and to create opportunities for engaging residents as volunteers, speakers, project leaders, and participants.

Affordable and Accessible Housing. The Committee will work with Town Committees and Maine Housing to promote affordable and accessible housing so that residents do not need to leave Town when the physical or financial restraints of their current home become unsustainable.

The Age Friendly Committee encourages residents to share with us your concerns about the barriers you face in getting the support you need or the ideas you have for making Bowdoinham a community for lifelong living.

Bowdoinham's Community Connections Project

Connecting Neighbors, Changing Lives: The Impact of Bowdoinham's Community Connections Project

In September 2024, Age-Friendly Bowdoinham launched its Community Connections (BCC) pilot project to strengthen local support networks and improve access to essential resources. With Bowdoinham's aging population and growing service demands, this initiative ensures residents can age in place with dignity while staying connected. Nestled in midcoast Maine, with just over 3,000 residents, BCC builds on and leverages long-standing age-friendly programming.

Maureen Booth, Age-Friendly Bowdoinham Advisory Committee Co-Chair, explains, "The announcement of the Community Connections pilot came at an ideal time. Residents using our rides program, food pantry, and general assistance often had needs beyond what any single service could address. The pilot gives us the resources, guidance, and support to provide critical one-on-one assistance to at-risk and isolated residents facing complex challenges."

Building a New Program

Sally Cluchey, a longtime resident and local State Representative, joined as Community Connector in September to establish a new support system. "Our goal is to connect people with trained volunteers who can guide them to community and state resources, whether for health coverage, food insecurity, housing, transportation, finances, or caregiver support," she says.

Working with Maureen and Jason Lamoreau, Age-Friendly Bowdoinham's Coordinator, Sally has recruited 11 volunteers—nine providing direct support, while others assist with events and outreach. In January, the team launched weekly Drop-In hours at the Fire Station, offering 1:1 assistance and volunteer opportunities.

Key Strategies for Success

Engaging Skilled Volunteers: BCC has attracted volunteers with backgrounds in nursing, occupational therapy, counseling, and accounting. The one-on-one model allows them to form meaningful connections and directly impact lives.

Effective Community Communication: Spreading the word has been vital. BCC supported the relaunch of Bowdoinhammer, a community newsletter that provides weekly updates on social activities and community resources. Sally has also leveraged Facebook and local events to share information.

Collaborating with State & Local Partners: BCC works closely with the Governor's Cabinet on Aging, UMaine Center on Aging, and local service providers to enhance support. Partnerships with organizations like Rides in Neighbors Cars, Bowdoinham's Handy Brigade, Bowdoinham Food Pantry, Legal Services for Maine Elders, Pine Tree Legal, Spectrum Generations, People Plus, and Midcoast CA\$H Maine have improved coordination and accessibility.

Bowdoinham's Community Connections Project con't...

Strengthening Community Ties

A key success of BCC has been the relationships formed—between volunteers and participants, among community organizations, and throughout Bowdoinham. Residents now receive help with transportation, food access, and emotional support, reinforcing the program's impact.

Sally shares, "One of the most rewarding aspects has been watching participants open up as trust builds, sharing concerns they may not have initially voiced. Many have significantly increased their engagement with the outside world."

Beyond connecting people to resources, the BCC team ensures individuals are matched with services that can genuinely assist them. The program has also highlighted systemic challenges within state programs, which Sally has brought to the attention of state officials for potential reform.

Looking Ahead

With a strong volunteer base, the next step is expanding outreach to reach more residents. BCC aims to enhance visibility, strengthen partnerships, and secure long-term funding. A key priority is emphasizing that the program serves all economic backgrounds—because aging presents challenges for everyone. Ultimately, the goal is to make Bowdoinham a place where all residents, regardless of age or circumstance, feel supported and connected.



Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals is responsible of hearing and making judgments on variances and citizen appeals regarding permit application decisions made in regard to Code Enforcement or Planning Board that they feel were wrongfully made. The Board members will then listen to the interested parties, review the information provide and the Town Ordinances to decide if an error was made.

The Board of Appeals had no variance or appeal applications during this past year.

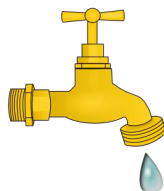
Bowdoinham Water District Board of Trustees

The Bowdoinham Water District’s mission is to provide its customers with a safe, high quality and reliable drinking water supply that meets or exceeds all federal and state drinking water requirements. Our goal is to treat and distribute District water in the most efficient way, while maintaining and upgrading the system to meet future requirements. We are also committed to providing professional and courteous service to satisfy the diverse needs of our customers. We would like to remind everyone to please report unusually wet areas to the District for investigation as potential leaks. Successful leak detection and pipe repair reduces the treatment and pumping costs associated with lost water and postpone the need to develop additional water sources of supply. The cost savings benefit not only all the rate payers, but all citizens through lower water costs for fire protections. In 2022 we have found two major leaks that have lowered pumping costs.

How to detect a leak in your toilet: Remove the cover on the toilet tank and carefully set it aside so it can’t be accidentally knocked over and cracked. Remove any “in-tank” bowl cleaners that color the water and begin the test with clear water in the tank and in the bowl. You will need some food coloring. Put enough food coloring in the tank water to give the water a deep color. Let is set over night and make sure no one uses the toilet. In the morning if you find any of the dyed water in the toilet bowl, your toilet is leaking. A properly operating toilet will store water in the tank indefinitely without any water running into the bowl. A small leak in your tank can add up to a lot of water in three months and increase your water bill.

The Water District Trustees are Donald Lamoreau, Chairman; Stephen Cox, Treasurer; David Reinheimer, Clerk; Brant Miller and Gordon Johnson. Arthur McLean is Superintendent and Robin Verow, Office Manager.

Sincerely,
Donald Lamoreau



BOWDOINHAM WATER DISTRICT
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Fax: (207) 737-2427
Email: bowdoinhamwater@ne.twcbc.com

Cemetery Advisory Committee

2024 was a productive year for the Bowdoinham Cemetery Advisory Committee. We decided early in the year to select one of the smaller cemeteries under our purview and create a model for revamping. Town Sexton Frank Connors suggested the Hall Cemetery located on the River Road (right hand side as you head toward Richmond). This lovely small cemetery is located within state property and the perimeter was literally piled with blowdowns. We calculated that the job would take two days—one to clean away debris both within and surrounding the cemetery and one to right and polish stones. Two days in June were selected. The first Saturday featured Public Works Foreman Tobey Frizzle with one of the huge dump trucks (which we filled) and the large chipper. Several volunteers brought chainsaws and the rest of us hauled their cuttings to the chipper. The cemetery was also illustrative of the damage trees within a cemetery may cause—one huge old tree had collapsed outward, crushing the wrought iron fence and another had grown into the fence (and is now inextricably part of the fence). The next workday we brought cleaning kits and while we gently scrubbed the Hall family stones, Frank probed for fallen or buried stones. The before and after pictures show what can be accomplished with volunteer labor and elbow grease.

Of Bowdoinham's 60+ cemeteries, 45 have village volunteer overseers or regular Public Works maintenance. We are grateful for their loving oversight. Elaine Diaz and Linda Temple complete annual visits to as many cemeteries as possible each summer to report on conditions as well as keep in contact with the volunteer keepers. With the help of Public Works, two gravestones (Weymouth and Millay) which had inexplicably become separated from family plots were returned to their rightful places and a baby stone Tarbox in the Sydney Plot on the Bay Road was restored to position. The Whitmore and Pratt Cemeteries have new fences (erected by their keepers) and signage for nine cemeteries are in. At our last workday for the summer, a successful and well attended cleaning day took place at Brown Point Cemetery in September. We are desperately seeking watchdogs (angels) for the remaining 15 cemeteries. Please contact us if you are interested.

In November the Select Board authorized the removal of 4 of the oldest large trees from Village Burying Ground. As noted earlier in this report, the historic pattern of tree planting within cemeteries is causing modern day anxieties as these elderly trees threaten human safety and costly stone damage as they deteriorate.

Our thanks again for the continuing help and care from willing volunteers and town officials.

Submitted by Nina J. Mendall, Chair



Before and after pictures of stone repair in Ridge Cemetery

Community Development Advisory Committee

2024 was a busy year for CDAC. The committee researched and developed recommendations on sidewalks, traffic improvements, a mural, interpretive signage for Maily and the new waterfront park, and analyzed the Comprehensive Plan to determine future work for CDAC. Some of our weekly meetings were dedicated to public presentations of these projects.

Yellow building at new waterfront park: CDAC is exploring options for using this building, such as for pop-up marketing. FEMA grants continue being researched to help finance addressing some existing issues.

Mural: CDAC proposed an amendment to the Tax Increment Finance District at the 2024 Town Meeting to support a series of murals in the village district which passed. Later in the Fall of 2024 the Select Board approved our proposal to put out a Call to Artists to solicit an artist to prepare a 7x16 foot mural on the west side of the bathhouse in the Maily Park parking lot. We look forward to its installation in the Summer of 2025.

Old Town Hall (TIF Update): The recent closure of the Old Town Hall has impacted the artisan community and other community groups which have benefited from using this space. As we continue exploring ways to meet their needs, there may be potential value in the building to become a commercial event/performance center which would not only support the artisans but may offer a revenue stream for the town if it were invested in. CDAC also drafted an amendment for the TIF district in 2024 to include the Old Town Hall as a way fund its restoration without any outlay of town money. Further, CDAC also amended the TIF to fund up to 50% of the capital costs related to the construction or renovation of the town's administrative office, the need for which is related to general economic development within the municipality.

Sidewalks (DOT Bike/Ped Grant): In 2024 the Town applied for a DOT Bike/Ped grant to extend the sidewalk 1,600 feet along Post Road from its intersection with Main Street to its intersection with Center Street along its north side to the Fire Department which is in alignment with the goals and recommendations of the 2010 Walkable Village Plan. At the time of writing the DOT had not made grant awards yet. This new section would connect to the sidewalk extension currently being developed on Main Street from School St. west to the Post Road intersection.

Crosswalks and traffic calming measures (Village Partnership Initiative): To advance the planning process in addressing speeding along Rt. 24, concerns for pedestrian safety in the village district and the need for a wholistic vision of the village center, the Town applied for and received a Maine DOT Village Partnership Initiative scoping grant. The committee interviewed consultants for the work and chose Gorrill-Palmer to perform the analysis, produce publicly vetted recommendations and a cost analysis for integrating these changes.

This project kicked off in July 2024 with a walk around the affected areas: Maily Waterfront Park parking lot, Main Street, Back Hill and Spring Street intersection, Routes 125 and 24 intersection, and Main Street to Ridge Road. The first public meeting was held in October 2024. Further an online survey was released during the fall for additional input from the community. Detailed notes taken by Staff, survey data, a copy of the slideshow presented in October as well as a recording of the presentation can be found on the



Community Development Advisory Committee con't...

town's website here: <https://www.bowdoinham.com/project/village-center-planning-study>.

A final report and reveal of the final plan is scheduled for the Winter of 2025.

Interpretive and wayfinding signage project (CORA Grant): In April 2024 CDAC was successful in applying for a Community Outdoor Recreation Assistance Recovery Grant to fund the design and installation of interpretive signage at the new waterfront park and to replace the existing interpretive sign at the Maily boat launch with new High Pressure Laminate signs which would last up to 50 years. In the fall of 2024 CDAC reviewed consultant applications and approved Banana Banners as the lead consultant on the project. Sub awardees on the grant include Community Geographic to create wayfinding signage for trails at the new park as well as provide all person's accessibility consultation for all signage produced for the park, Kennebec Estuary Land Trust is also providing input for local flora and fauna signage.

Overall, CDAC will manage a public process in determining interpretive signage locations, content, and design within the Maily Waterfront Park (1-2 signs), the new waterfront park (~5 signs), and within the Cathance River Trails (~5 signs) and present the signs to the community. The outcome will be the creation and installation of 10-12 interpretive signs at Maily and the new park and approximately 10 wayfinding signs in the new park. The signage project will kick off with a public input meeting in January 2025.

Comprehensive Planning Committee



The 2024 to 2034 Comprehensive Plan for Bowdoinham was adopted at Town Meeting on June 1, 2024. A huge thank you to the citizens of Bowdoinham for helping update this plan. You shared your thoughts at our Visioning Workshops, the Land Use Forums, the Housing Forums, Feedback Sessions, and online surveys on the draft plan. You engaged with us at Celebrate Bowdoinham by pushing beans around on a table to represent housing, drawing on maps, putting stickers on pictures or writing thoughtful messages on a big sheet of brown paper.

Thank you to the current and past committee members for compiling all the feedback from those events,

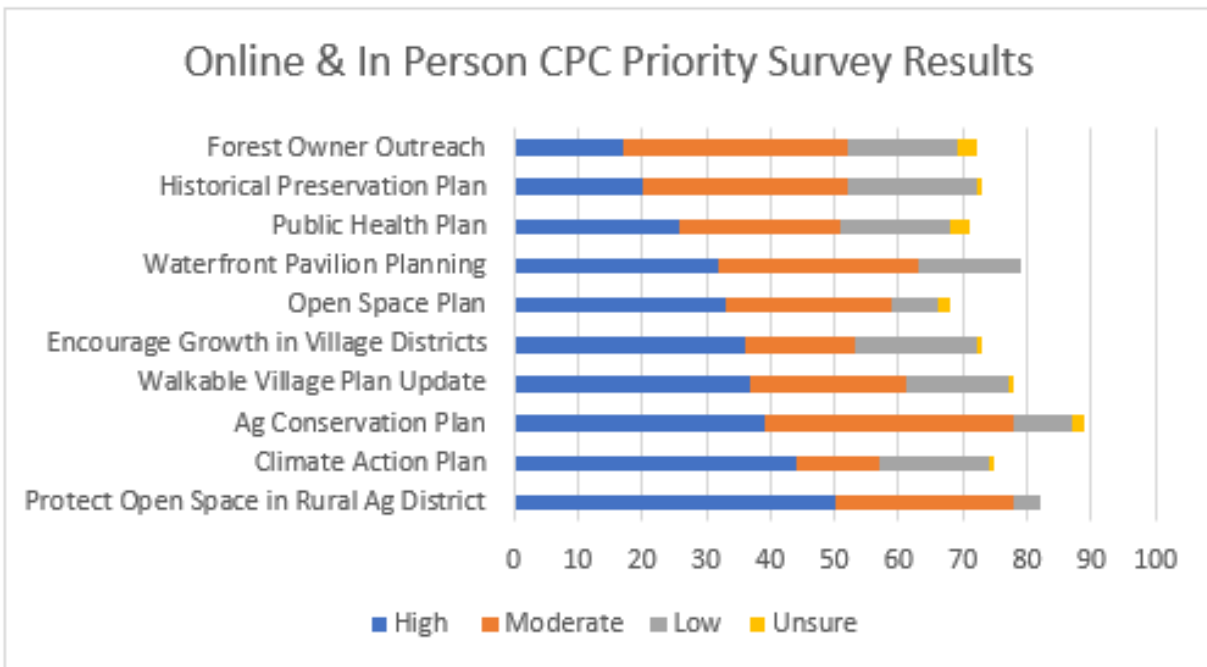
Comprehensive Planning Committee con't...

the census data, and mapping data to draft a plan that reflects the vision and values to guide our town to 2034 which include our current members: Peggy Christian, Vice Chair, Laura Arnold, Jason Lamoreau, Jan Marks, Robert Schott, and William Stanton. As well as our past members who also assisted in the drafting of this plan: Allen Acker, Tom Deforeest, Joanne Joy, PJ O'Hanlon, Richard Morin, Patrick Thompson, Kevin Twine, and Reeve Wood.

Moving forward, the committee has begun implementing the plan's recommendations in the latter half of 2024. Our priorities were informed by a community wide survey which identified the following actions in order of ascending priority with Protecting Open Space in Rural Ag District ranking the highest and Forest Owner Outreach with the least. The committee continues to gather more information and resources on these topics by hosting presentations from companies that have software for planning simulations, land trusts, and the State of Maine's Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Department among others.

In case you are looking for a way to serve our community, this is a great time to join the Comprehensive Planning Committee. Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month, 6:00-8:00. Applications are available at the Town Office.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Asmussen, Chair



Emergency Medical Committee

The Emergency Medical Services Committee is tasked with helping to evaluate and navigate the best course for the future of emergency medical services in Bowdoinham. Due to regular scheduling conflicts for board members, we meet at the fire station at least every two months on the last Wednesday at 6:00 P.M. The schedule for all meetings will be published in the Town calendar well in advance.

Emergency services, EMS specifically, are rapidly changing throughout Maine and the rest of the country. Regionalization, training, health and wellness, recruitment and retention are just a few of the key areas we look at regularly. Our goal is to continue to investigate the changes, look at the options and provide residents with all of the information we can to help make truly informed decisions on what we all want the future EMS services to look like in Bowdoinham.

Arthur Frizzle, Fire Chief



Finance Advisory Committee

The Finance Advisory Committee is made up of five members and one alternative appointed by the Select Board. The Committee assists the Town Manager and Select Board with financial decisions regarding the development and administration of the municipal budget and investment program.

The Committee meets monthly in the fall and more frequently in the spring as the budget is developed. During this time, the Committee meets with Department Heads, reviews the town's financial records, goals and projects list as well as upcoming needs in order to recommend a budget to the Select Board.

David Engler, Chair



Planning Board

2024 proved a typical year for the Bowdoinham Planning Board. The volunteer board reviewed 7 applications and discussed and drafted several changes to the Land Use Ordinance. We were helped ably by Town Planner Yvette Meunier and CEOs Matt James and Jason Lorrain. I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who has been involved with the Planning Board this year for their collaborative spirit.

In 2024 the Planning Board reviewed and approved the following applications:

-Site Plan Review Tier 2 Application by ATDT LLC to develop via relocation a gas station, including associated fuel storage tanks, at 50 River Rd.

-Site Plan Review Tier 3 Application by Scott Libby Woodworking for an indoor woodworking facility at 112 Pond Rd.

-Site Plan Review Tier 2 Application by Hatch Point Enterprises for 16 guest cabins and an associated parking lot at 1411 River Rd.

-Site Plan Review Tier 2 Application by Nathan Drummond and Gabrielle Gosselin for a 50'x80' vegetable washing and packing facility at 52 Centers Point Rd.

-Subdivision and Site Plan Tier 2 Applications by SammCo Holdings for two residential condo buildings with a total of 14 units at the intersection of Pond Rd and Main St.

-Site Plan Review Tier 2 Application by Adams Family Construction LLC for residential care facility with six bedrooms on Fisher Rd.

In addition, in 2024 the Planning Board reviewed the following applications that were not approved within the calendar year:

-Subdivision Application by Sara Reed for a minor, three-lot subdivision on Cranberry Way

Also, in 2024 the Planning Board drafted, heard comment on, and approved proposed changes to the Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance including:

-New definitions, performance standards and dimensional requirements related to major and minor subdivisions

-A range of formatting and grammatical edits

These proposed changes were not approved by voters at the town meeting in June.

Sincerely,

Nathan Drummond

Chairman of the Bowdoinham Planning Board

Select Board

Select Board Highlights of 2024

Joanne Joy, Chair

Bowdoinham's Select Board is made up of five members who are elected for 3-year terms. Current members are Allen Acker, Mark Favreau, Peter Feeney, Jason Hodde, and myself. Board service begins the very next week following the November election.

The range of town issues reviewed, discussed and decided upon by the Board are certainly varied. Although some decisions are the responsibilities of the Board, the day-to-day implementation lies with the Town Manager and very capable staff members. The highlights below are only possible because of the dedication and work of department heads and the folks in the front office, the public works department, and the solid waste team. Thanks all.

Below are a few highlights from the past year.

Town Hall Restoration

Although in 2023 the town's people were unsure about whether Bowdoinham's Town Hall could be saved, restoration of the Town Hall is now underway. With the approved regulations on use of TIF funds, not tax dollars, a staged plan to rescue, restore, repair and even update the building is now moving forward. Last fall the building was lifted, earth work completed, and a new foundation poured before snow fell in late 2024. Floor and roof work are projected to begin in the spring. There will be opportunities for additional community input as the project continues if you would like to get involved.

Cemeteries and Trees

Cemeteries and trees do not always co-exist perfectly. In the past few years, extreme weather conditions and weakening of the old trees in the Village Cemetery have led to many branches coming down, some damaging head stones in the oldest parts of the cemetery. Plans to remove trees came to the attention of community members who expressed concerns. The Select Board held a special meeting on site in the Village Cemetery during which concerned community members, arborists, Cemetery Committee members, and others came to share perspectives. Overall, two priorities emerged, one for the protection of legacy trees, and the other for the protection of the original, historic stone markers of our town's earlier residents.

Four trees ultimately were removed, and others will be assessed for next steps. The Comprehensive Plan calls for a Tree Maintenance and Replacement Plan, which will be the vehicle for proactive planning to manage the towns community trees in the future.

Update on Solid Waste and Recycling Policy

Many, many hours were devoted to reviews and rewrites of a very old and outdated ordinance. Committee members examined policies from other communities, costs of managing trash, and costs and benefits of handling recyclables. Presentations were made to the Board, community forums were held with input considered, more revisions made, and educational materials developed. In November on election day this updated policy was accepted. With the new policy, there are also implementation rules that guide what and how solid waste is collected by whom and when and what the costs may or may not be. The Solid Waste folks work hard to keep community members informed with their on-site white-board updates, and detailed guidance on Bowdoinham's website, <https://www.bowdoinham.com/SWR>.

Select Board con't...

Road Improvements

Road maintenance is very expensive, relies on the capacity and staffing of our public works department, as well as on engaging reliable contractors. This past year has seen great improvements on Carding Machine Road in particular with other upgrades in ditching, surfacing, etc. around town.

Bowdoinham public works is also taking on plowing Rt. 138 during the winter of 2024-25 through a contract with DOT, which seems to be going well.

Addressing Unused, Not Maintained and Other 'Abandoned' Town Roads

There are also situations when roads are not maintained or improved. The Bowdoinham Select Board minutes and town road maintenance records going back many, many years provide examples of discussions and decisions that led to roads not being maintained. Laws and practices have changed over time with current state law defining standards for declaring a road as abandoned or discontinued, with criteria and processes definitely too involved for this summary. It is important to note however, that legal advice is required and there are other expenses to consider, along with current use/nonuse.

Moving forward the Select Board is interested in examining which unmaintained roads are still in legal limbo and making a plan to address them in a systematic process. Current discussions are focused on Dingley Road and additional roads will be prioritized in the upcoming year.

Your Participation

Remember, Select Board meetings are available on both Zoom and Town Hall Streams platforms, and we welcome public comment and participation at all regular meetings and public hearings.



Left to right: Mark Favreau, Jason Hodde, Peter Feeney, Joanne Joy, Allen Acker

Solid Waste Committee

This was a busy year for the Solid Waste Committee. With help from citizens input we were able to put a revised Solid Waste Ordinance on the ballot in November and with 1,723 citizens voting the Ordinance passed by 20%. The revised Ordinance has achieved the goals of:

Adhering to all applicable laws - the Town was not in compliance with the 1994 Ordinance,
Flexibility, allowing the Ordinance and Rules to change to meet the Town's ever-changing needs, and
Balance between protecting health and safety of residents with being environmentally conscious and being fiscally responsible.

Like all Town Ordinances this should be a living document and there were some tweaks suggested by residents after the initial deadline. One change clarifies no one can dump trash on someone else's property. The second change deals with the definition of agricultural waste; the original language allowed dumping of pesticides which was not intended. Please feel free to ask questions about these during Town Meeting. The Solid Waste Committee unanimously recommends passing these changes.

Should you have any suggested changes to the Ordinance or Rules documents, or the Solid Waste program in general please let us know. You can email us at recycling@bowdoinham.com.

Another large initiative this past year was to plan for our current trash hauler's expected retirement. With no other haulers willing to continue our approach we looked at other options including bringing curbside collection in-house, changing our model to go back to the days when citizens would bring their trash to a central repository, or using another company to perform curbside collection. Each of these options had both positive and negative implications, fortunately our current trash hauler has postponed retirement allowing us to continue the service the Town has been satisfied with for over 30 years. To get more information on other potential trash models watch the November 26, 2024 Select Board meeting where all options were presented. If/when our current vendor does retire we will review and update all options.

The Town is making progress on obtaining a Transfer Station license. Obtaining a license through the State is a long process, but well worth the effort. In a recent survey of 28 surrounding towns the vast majority of these towns have a transfer station. Transfer stations allow towns to be more flexible in items they can accept and to collect items more frequently. For example when the transfer station license is granted Bowdoinham will be able to accept bulky trash (e.g. old sofas or old mattresses) at any time instead of just twice a year. We have been able to file for this license with NO budget impact to the Town. Should the unexpected happen and more funding be required that would impact budgeting, it would NOT happen without a vote by the citizens.

We have also been focusing on improving communications with Town residents. Check out the Bowdoinham News for updates and articles and should you have any topics you would like us to cover please send it to us in an email at recycling@bowdoinham.com

Lastly a BIG shout out to our tremendous Solid Waste team, Jacinta, Cassie and Bryan. They are an incredible resource for you, just ask them your questions. Use the email above or visit them at the Town's recycling facility. Our hours are Tuesday 12:00 noon - 6:00 PM and Thursday and Saturday from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Solid Waste Committee; Wendy Cunningham, Paul Denis, Paul Tabor and Pat McDonough.

Jacinta, Cassie and Bryan in front of tons of recycled cardboard



Town Hall Committee

The Town Hall Committee is pleased to report that repairs and improvements to the Town Hall have started, and progress continues.

Last spring, the Town Manager, Nicole Briand, shared the possibility of including the Town Hall in the town's TIF district. This would allow funds to be directed to the Town Hall to support economic development.

The Community Development Advisory Committee met on 3/5/2024 and the district was amended as proposed. At the town meeting, held in June, two articles supporting restoration and repair efforts were passed. This included a motion to amend Bowdoinham's TIF application and expand the footprint of the district to include the Town Office and Town Hall. The other article included funding in the Capital Reserve budget that could support improvements.

Repairs on the foundation began in August. On August 29th, Copp Building Movers raised the building. Work continued with Holloway Concrete doing the foundation work. This consists of pouring footings, the slab and walls. Tourtelotte Excavating did the groundwork. Copp Building Movers then lowered the Town Hall on to its new foundation. Mark Favreau was hired by the Town to serve as project manager, overseeing coordination between projects and contractors.

The Committee extends thanks to those who have been supportive of this restoration project, including Albert Stehle for the removal of the brick chimney; Mark Favreau for his on-site expertise, T&H Excavation for pre-lift and post-lift preparations of the site, the Public Works Department, and Doug Tourtelotte for caring about this beloved historical treasure and his determination to preserve it.

Improvement projects for this year will include replacing the sills and floor, and replacement of the roof and siding. As we continue forward, there will be many opportunities for community members to be involved. This may include supporting fundraising activities, providing feedback on changes and updates, or assisting with smaller projects. If you have ideas or questions, we'd love to hear from you. The Town Hall Committee meets monthly. Specific meeting times can be found on the Town's website. We hope you'll join us as we continue to bring this wonderful building back to life.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachelle Tome
Committee Member



Bowdoinham Public Library

The Bowdoinham Public Library is in its 114th year providing the citizens of the town resources and experiences, and striving every day to fulfill its mission.

In early August 2023, the library was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Maine State Library and the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development through the “Remote Work through Libraries” initiative. Bowdoinham’s library was one of 39 libraries across Maine to be awarded funding for this initiative. We owe deep thanks to Maureen Booth who successfully guided us through the competitive grant application process. The initiative focuses on libraries that serve communities where access to business centers or coworking spaces is limited, or where there are barriers preventing workers from taking advantage of existing facilities. Bowdoinham has long been aware of the problems that exist in access to the library space within the Coombs Building. A study conducted in 2019 provided detailed information about the barriers to access including the exterior staircases and difficult parking near to the access ramp.

The library board and staff designed a porch and handicap access in the northwest corner of the building which was constructed by a local builder, Ahlers Building & Design, this fall. The library, as a tenant of the Coombs Building, was able to partner with the Town of Bowdoinham and its public works department to fund the expansion and improvement to the parking lot. Features of the large porch include lighting, multiple electrical outlets, and WiFi coverage all of which will allow remote work stations in a pleasant, covered, outdoor space.

Meanwhile, the library continues to offer books and other resources such as park and museum passes for the community to borrow at no cost. Our library programming continues to draw people of all ages and to stimulate ideas and discussions on a wide range of topics. Two book groups have their largest memberships ever. The summer reading program continues to draw record numbers of kids.

The grand experiment of running a used bookstore in the village to supplement other library fundraising continues. Please support the library with your purchase of some gently used books from Merryreading Books. We thank all of our volunteers who manage and staff the store as well as those who help with other fundraisers.

On behalf of the library board, we welcome anyone to attend our quarterly meetings and share suggestions. Please come to the library to see the changes, both outside and inside!

Kate Cutko
Library Director



Bowdoinham Community School



BOWDOINHAM COMMUNITY SCHOOL
23 Cemetery Road, Bowdoinham, ME 04008
Phone: (207) 666-5546
Fax: (207) 666-3160
Website: bhm.link75.org

Chris Lajoie, Principal
Email: lajoiec@link75.org

March 2025

Dear Bowdoinham Community Member,

I am honored to once again provide this update for inclusion in the town's Annual Report. I am in my eleventh year as Principal of our Community School and have never been more excited about the work we are doing, or more hopeful for our future. As I wrote in my letter two years ago, we continue to focus on what unites us for the children of our community. We all want them to be able to read, understand and communicate information and ideas proficiently. We all want them to utilize mathematics effectively in their lives. We all want them to think critically and solve problems peacefully. We all want them to have friends and feel a sense of belonging and investment in their school and community. We all want them to be set up for success in life as: workers who can support families and contribute to society; citizens who understand their rights and responsibilities, and uphold the democratic principles of our great country; and adults who look out for others, and who keep learning long after they leave school. That is our ongoing work as a school, and you are an important part of that.

As you consider the impact of your investment in our school, know that we could not do what we do without your support. Our students continue to achieve above district, state and national benchmarks - in fact, significantly above in reading achievement - while we spend less per pupil than any other school in MSAD 75. Our student population has hovered just above 190 in recent years, the only school in the district with an enrollment increase over the last decade. We utilize our funding strategically, without taking it for granted, seeking to provide an excellent education for every one of our students. That success includes academic achievement, of course, but also social and life skills that allow them to thrive in the complex world in which they are growing up. One of our most exciting developments this year is our Play Club, where kids of all ages stay after school to play and explore the school grounds, with only as much adult intervention as is necessary for safety. Students not only get unfettered exercise in the fresh air, they develop skills of resilience, independence, problem solving and communication. Kids of previous generations benefited from it, and it has been fun for us to bring back a focus on the benefits of unstructured play for our students.

A final word: our world-class teachers and staff return year after year, committed deeply to our school. Most of the school budget goes toward salaries and I will continue doing everything I can to make sure Bowdoinham's students have the very best and brightest educators anywhere. Thank you, community member, for another year of this wonderful partnership. I am happy to answer your questions anytime: lajoiec@link75.org or (207) 666-5546, option 6.

With Gratitude,

Chris Lajoie
Principal

"Meaningful Learning That Lasts"

MSAD #75

Dear Bowdoinham Community Members,

It has been a productive year for the educators and students of MSAD #75!

Dr. Heidi O’Leary, in her second year as the MSAD #75 Superintendent, has led the creation of a District-wide strategic plan. Over the school year, there have been surveys, workshops, and group sessions involving direct participation from community members, students, staff, and the Board. After many years of (necessary) short-term focus, and the worldwide challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Board has been excited to work with Superintendent O’Leary in defining our vision and goals for the coming years. The strategic plan is on track to be adopted by July 1, 2025, and we all look forward to bringing it to life in the immediate future.

For the past few years, the Maine Department of Education has used the NWEA testing program as the statewide measurement of student achievement. Through this testing, we consistently see MSAD #75 test results coming in above the Maine state average, particularly in Mathematics. For the 2023-2024 school year: 68.9% of MSAD #75 students tested at or above expectations in English Language Arts, compared to 65.4% statewide; 55.5% of MSAD #75 students tested at or above expectations in Mathematics, compared to 47.2% statewide. While our District’s relative standing is something to be proud of, we are still encountering the same trends as the state, and are working to improve student achievement universally.

The school budget is voted on by the residents of Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Harpswell and Topsham the second Tuesday of every June. This year’s referendum election will be on June 10th. Budget information was mailed to all residents and is also located on the District’s website, under the Business Office department page. MSAD #75 faces the same budget pressure as the rest of the state, with uncertainty regarding many federal programs. This year’s budget process maintained our deliberative and data-driven approach, focusing on providing for the needs of all students within our community while balancing fiscal responsibility.

Andy Begin and Hutson Hayward are Bowdoinham’s elected members of the School Board. Andy is the Chair of the Facilities Committee, and serves on the Support Staff Negotiations and Transportation Committees. Hutson is the Chair of the Policy Committee, and serves on the Finance and Superintendent Evaluation Committees. Hutson also served as the Board Chair for the 2023-2024 school year, and will be Vice Chair for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year.

We thank you all for the opportunity to serve the community. Residents with questions about the school district are welcome to reach out at any time: Andy Begin at begin@link75.org; and Hutson Hayward at haywardh@link75.org.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andy Begin and Hutson Hayward
Maine School Administrative District No. 75

Amy Spelke, Chair, 2024-2025

District information Pertaining to Bowdoinham FY2025 (current)
Operating Budget (including Adult Education): \$55,018,077
Bowdoinham’s FY2025 Local Share of the overall District Budget: \$4,225,581
Percentage of total Local Share: 13.39%
Bowdoinham’s Student Enrollment, as of October 1, 2024: 407* (includes 6 Pre-K students)
Kindergarten – 5th grade at Bowdoinham Community School: 192
Grades 6-8 at Mt. Ararat Middle School: 100
Grades 9-12 at Mt. Ararat High School: 114
Percentage of total District Enrollment (2291): 17.77%

**Some Bowdoinham resident students attend different district elementary schools, and vice versa, leading to this difference of 1 student*



Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

Dear Maine Resident:

I have always been guided by the belief that to strengthen our state, we have to invest in our greatest asset: the people of Maine. With the support of the Legislature, my Administration has been investing in what people need to succeed, like job training, child care, health care, education, broadband, and housing.

We are seeing results — small businesses are expanding their operations; people are moving here to work and raise their families; and graduates are staying in Maine to pursue rewarding, life-long careers. These are all encouraging signs that are reflected in the strength of our economy. In fact, Maine has one of the best rates of economic growth in the nation.

That's good news, but I know that not everyone is feeling the benefits of our strong economy. The cost of living in Maine, as in much of America, is too high. The price of fuel, the cost of supplies, utilities and labor have driven up expenses for families across the country and impacted the budgets of towns, counties and nearly every state, including Maine.

I want everyone to benefit from the availability of good jobs, a good public education, and good health care in our state. That is why I have put forward a balanced budget proposal that proposes some savings and certain targeted revenue increases to maintain things we all support, like the state paying 55 percent of the cost of education and 5 percent municipal revenue sharing, to keep all these costs from being passed along to property taxpayers.

We have made good progress over the past six years to ensure that every person in Maine can find a good-paying job in a rewarding and stable career; go to the doctor when they feel sick because they have health insurance; and have the peace of mind that their children are safe at home and at school.

I look forward to working with communities and citizens across the state to solve problems, manage our finances, and keep our people healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills
Governor



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

PHONE: (207) 287-3531 (Voice)

TTY USERS CALL 711
www.maine.gov

FAX: (207) 287-1034

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904
(202) 224-2623
(202) 224-2093 (FAX)

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
Vice Chair
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to represent Maine in the United States Senate, and I welcome this opportunity to share several key accomplishments for our state from the previous year.

As Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee, I have secured nearly \$580 million for 230 projects across all of Maine's 16 counties to promote job creation, workforce training, and economic development; expand access to health care; support law enforcement; improve public education and infrastructure; and protect our environment. As the new Congress begins, I am honored to be taking the helm of the Committee, the first Mainer to do so in nearly a century, and I remain committed to ensuring that federal spending produces real results for our state and nation.

Maine has the oldest average age in the country, which is why I have long prioritized health-focused legislative efforts. There were more than 1,860 health care bills introduced during the 118th Congress. Only 15 health care bills were signed into law, and I was a lead sponsor of five of them. These bills will enhance care for individuals with Alzheimer's, autism, and substance abuse issues through improved research funding, strengthened public health programs, and increased support for rural first responders.

Another important bill that I coauthored was the *Social Security Fairness Act*. Since 2003, when I led the first-ever Senate hearing on the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, I have sought to end these provisions of the *Social Security Act* that unfairly reduce the Social Security benefits that public employees or their spouses have earned. I am pleased to say that with the passage of my bill, the *Social Security Fairness Act*, in December, public sector retirees will now receive the full Social Security benefits they have earned.

When the Maine way of life was under threat, I was certain to defend the interests of our state. I worked to protect Maine's potato farmers when the Department of Agriculture tried to reclassify the potato from a vegetable to a grain. I thwarted efforts to consolidate USPS mail operations at the Hampden postal facility, which would have disrupted mail delivery throughout our state. I sounded the alarm with leaders at the FBI and Departments of State and Treasury on the spate of illicit marijuana growing operations that are destroying properties and providing refuge to foreign criminals in our state. Following damage to our working waterfronts after last winter's storms, I secured \$15 million to help fishing communities recover. I championed funding to support the Maine Air National Guard base, Bath Iron Works, and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

As of last December, I have cast more than 9,100 consecutive votes, continuing my record of never missing a roll-call vote since my Senate service began in 1997. My ranking as the most bipartisan Senator reflects Maine's tradition of working with a spirit of cooperation and respect.

My highest priority as a Senator is to ensure that Maine's needs are met. If ever I can be of assistance to you, please contact one of my state offices or visit my website at collins.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

www.collins.senate.gov

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
MAINE

133 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 224-5344
Website: <https://www.King.Senate.gov>

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 1, 2025

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
CHAIRMAN, STRATEGIC FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE
ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL PARKS
SUBCOMMITTEE
INTELLIGENCE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Dear Friends,

Each year comes with renewed hope – to celebrate each other's successes and care for each other in times of need. I am thankful to each town in Maine for their commitment to their communities, to their citizens, and to this country. We always work together to get things done. This past year was no different.

First, it was a true honor to be reelected to the United States Senate for another six-year term. Throughout my travels around the state, I heard many concerns about the cost of living and affordability of housing. Many of you also shared your concerns about access to medical and mental health services. The *Inflation Reduction Act* has been incredible for older people in Maine – Medicare is finally negotiating lower prices for prescription drugs, on top of the \$35 per month cap for insulin that took effect in 2023. We have an opportunity to build on what we have in common and do what Maine people do best; we will continue to help each other and lead through example.

I have also been consistently working to help our veterans. My team has repeatedly been successful in securing long-overdue recognition of military medals for many of Maine's combat veterans and working to resolve issues with claims, travel pay, and access to healthcare and benefits our veterans earned through their selfless service to our country. I have also worked with my Veterans Affairs and Defense partners in Washington to successfully pass a national defense bill that strengthens our national security, takes care of our service members, and supports Maine businesses from Aroostook to York County.

I am also thankful to have such an incredible team across Maine available to you for hurdles you may face with the federal government. Whether it be veteran issues, social security problems, student loans, immigration, IRS and more, please never hesitate to reach out to my offices in Presque Isle, Bangor, Augusta, Portland, or Biddeford and allow us the chance to be part of your solutions.

Together, over the next six years, I know we can continue to build a stronger, brighter future for our great state. Thank you for being one of the reasons Maine is so special; it is not only a pleasure to serve you — it is a pleasure to know you. Mary and I wish you a happy and safe 2025.

Best Regards,



ANGUS S. KING, JR.
United States Senate

AUGUSTA
40 Western Avenue, Suite 412
Augusta, ME 04330
(207) 622-8292

BANGOR
202 Harlow Street, Suite 20350
Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 945-8000

BIDDEFORD
227 Main Street
Biddeford, ME 04005
(207) 352-5216

PORTLAND
1 Pleasant Street, Unit 4W
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 245-1565

PRESQUE ISLE
167 Academy Street, Suite A
Presque Isle, ME 04769
(207) 764-5124

In Maine call toll-free 1-800-432-1599
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CHELLIE PINGREE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
1ST DISTRICT MAINE

Dear Friends,

I want to extend my sincerest well wishes for 2025: to you, your loved ones, and your community. I'd also like to share an update on what my team and I have been working on—and how we intend to continue serving Maine's First District in the next Congress.

One year ago, our state was reeling from a series of unprecedented winter storms. Thanks to the efforts of local, state, and federal officials, we're starting to rebuild. The Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Small Business Administration approved more than \$10.7 million in federal assistance for Maine households, businesses, and homeowners in the months following the storms. In addition, Maine received a \$69 million grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to support the climate-resilience goals outlined in *Maine Won't Wait*. More help is needed, no doubt, and I will continue to advocate for the support our state deserves. For more information about available resources, go to pingree.house.gov/disasterresources.

In 2024, \$1.7 billion in federal grant funding came to Maine—encompassing everything from conservation efforts and home-heating assistance to resilient infrastructure and affordable housing. My team was able to secure \$1.4 million in refunds for Maine taxpayers, along with \$639,000 in Social Security benefits. We also helped thousands of constituents file for work permits, veterans benefits, and passports, and wrote countless letters of support on behalf of our constituents.

I'm so proud of what we achieved in 2024, and I'm fully committed to building on those accomplishments in the 119th Congress. As ever, my team and I are ready to assist however we can. Please don't hesitate to reach out to my Portland office at (207) 774-5019, or by visiting pingree.house.gov/contact. We're also happy to provide information related to Congress's annual Community Project Funding (CPF) process, which allows nonprofits and local governments to apply for federal funding for specific projects. For more info, go to pingree.house.gov/communityprojectfunding.

I'm deeply honored that voters have chosen me to represent them once again in the U.S. Congress. It is a responsibility I will never take lightly—and a privilege I will always cherish.

Sincerely,

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress





Sally Cluchey
15 Brickyard Way
Bowdoinham, ME 04008
Phone: (207) 814-8879
Sally.Cluchey@legislature.maine.gov

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1400
TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

Dear Neighbors:

As your representative, I want to share my thoughts on some of our biggest challenges – property taxes, healthcare and the cost of living—and what I’m doing to address them.

Last summer and fall, I knocked on 2,000 doors in our district, and I heard loud and clear that these issues are weighing heavily on families, older Mainers and hardworking individuals.

One major reason property taxes are so high is school funding. While the state allocates 40.9 percent of income and sales tax revenue to education, it’s not enough to fully fund our schools, leaving property taxpayers to make up the difference. Adding to the challenge, more out-of-state buyers are purchasing homes here as second residences and rental properties, further driving up housing costs and property taxes.

One step I’m taking to address this is to cosponsor LD 432, a bipartisan bill that would allow municipalities to set different tax rates for primary residents and non-resident property owners. This would give local governments more flexibility to ease the tax burden on full-time residents, while ensuring part-time homeowners contribute their fair share to the growing financial burden they are exacerbating and benefiting from in our communities.

Maine’s slowing revenue growth is also making it harder to sustain critical investments in healthcare, including nursing homes, direct care workers and mental health services. MaineCare (Medicaid) accounts for 25 percent of the state budget, and one in five older adults and one in three children in Sagadahoc County rely on it. These programs are essential, but without new revenue sources, they are at risk of being cut.

These proposed cuts are one of the reasons I’m frustrated with the Governor’s proposed revenue solutions, which I believe unfairly burden the middle class. We need real reforms to make the income tax system fairer and reduce property taxes, and I will be supporting several other bills that tackle those issues. Last session, we expanded tax relief programs for older Mainers and families with young children. I’m happy to meet with anyone to review available tax programs and ensure you’re getting all the benefits you qualify for.

Working for change in Augusta can be a slog, but it’s worth it to try to improve the lives and livelihoods of everyone in our communities. I’m committed to making sure your voices are heard in this process. Your stories guide my work every day. Please don’t hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sally Cluchey'.

Sally Cluchey
State Representative

District 52: Bowdoinham, Richmond and Bowdoin (part)



Denise Tepler
Senator, District 24

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Friends and Residents of Bowdoinham,

Thank you for placing your trust in me as your State Senator. With the First Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature now underway, I'm excited to share updates on our work in Augusta, including my new committee assignments.

I have been appointed to serve as Senate Chair of Environment and Natural Resources Committee. This work is vital for our area. This session, our priorities include mitigating the PFAS contamination crisis, addressing Maine's struggles with increased solid waste and maintaining Maine's clean air and water and to ensure that every Mainer has a sustainable future.

I am also pleased to also serve as Senate Chair of Marine Resources Committee, where I will work to keep ocean-based resources protected for the future. I am committed to supporting our working waterfronts, fisherman, and strengthening infrastructure to be more climate resilient.

In the coming months, my colleagues and I will tackle a wide range of issues, including cost-of-living concerns, child care needs, and critical workforce initiatives. Throughout these discussions, I will keep Sagadahoc County's unique needs at the forefront of my priorities.

Please remember that I am here to help. If you need assistance connecting with a state agency, have questions about legislation, or wish to share your thoughts, feel free to reach out at Denise.Tepler@legislature.maine.gov or call my legislative office at (207) 287-1515. I look forward to continuing our work together to build a stronger future for our district and all Mainers.

Thank you again for the privilege of serving as your State Senator.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise Tepler".

Senator Denise Tepler
Senate District 24
All of Sagadahoc County and Dresden

*Chair, Environment and Natural Resources Committee * Chair, Marine Resources Committee
State House (207) 287-1515 * Fax (207) 287-1585 * Toll Free 1-800-423-6900 * TTY 711
Denise.Tepler@legislature.maine.gov * legislature.maine.gov/senate*

Sagadahoc County
Board of Commissioners' 2024 Annual Report



CHARLES E. CROSBY III
DISTRICT 1 COMMISSION CHAIR
BOWDOIN & TOPSHAM

STEPHEN M. AUGUST
DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONER
BATH & BOWDOINHAM

CAROL A. GROSE
DISTRICT 3 COMMISSION VICE CHAIR
ARROWSIC, GEORGETOWN, PHIPPSBURG
RICHMOND, WOOLWICH & WEST BATH

Dear Residents of Sagadahoc County in District 2,

It is an honor to serve the taxpayers of Sagadahoc County on the Board of Commissioners. The Commissioners are committed to ensuring that County services are delivered in the most cost-effective and professional way possible. The Board watches financial constraints closely and the challenges faced by each community.

FY24 continued to see changes in the labor market, and a high increase in the cost-of-living. The County continued to maintain adequate staffing levels and to navigate the changing landscape of employment, requesting that two part-time positions become full-time: the Administrative Assistant position in the Administration Office and the Probate Clerk position. In FY24 two Collective Bargaining agreements were negotiated: for the Sheriff's Patrol Deputies and for Sheriff's Transport Deputies. The Communications Upgrade project, negotiating for new Radio Towers, continued throughout the year, successfully negotiating with the Town of West Bath. The West Bath tower construction started and will be completed in early 2025. Landscaping around the courthouse was done for the first time in several years as well as resealing and striping of the parking lot. A new County's website went live with a focus on ADA compliance. The County installed a new security access system (key fobs) for the entrances and certain restricted access doors within the courthouse. The Communications department had a "Culture Scan" conducted by a third party in which surveys and interviews were used to review policies and make recommendations to improve employee retention and department work culture. The Board of Health has delved into the question of the best use of the Opioid Settlement funds, creating and conducting a stakeholder survey that produced recommendations for the Commissioners. The county's Emergency Management Agency introduced a superior mass notification alert system "Rave" and has promoted and exceeded all expectations for participation in our community.

Looking forward, the FY25 budget, combining operating, capital, and debt service is \$11,781,051, which is an increase of 14.24% over FY24 at \$10,312,285. Salaries and Capital accounted for the majority of FY25 budget increase. The County still benefits from employing a self-funded health insurance model, which gives the County more control over increases to the annual health insurance premiums. Finally, it is important to note that costs associated with Two Bridges Regional Jail, including debt service, constituted approximately 33% of the County's total budget. The Bond for Two Bridges Regional Jail will be paid off December 31, 2025, currently there is a balance of \$661,125.

Administration has been busy with several projects including the following:

- New HRIS & Payroll system: ADP, went live in January 2024.
- The Midcoast Corrections Collaborative worked towards the regionalization of Two Bridges Regional Jail (co-owned and operated by Lincoln and Sagadahoc Counties) to include Knox and Waldo Counties, and thus all counties of Prosecutorial District 6.
- The FY25 budget focused on evaluating what capital accounts need to be developed into long-term targeted capital improvement plans (CIP's). The audit for the year ending June 30, 2024, had no material or significant deficiencies.
- Following the rewrite of the Personnel Policy Handbook, new policies were authorized, namely Credit Card Use Policy, Purchase Order Policy, ADA Policy, and Covid Policy
- Administration continues to work with the County's economic development entity, MCOG (Midcoast Council of Governments) which serves all Sagadahoc communities. Strategic Planning sessions are being held publicly at the municipal level, and participating municipalities are focusing on opportunities for regionalization.
- Administration continues to work with MCCA (Maine County Commissioners' Association) to track and lobby for positive legislative changes.

Stephen August

Sagadahoc County Commissioner

Outstanding Real Estate Property Taxes

Liens as of May 6, 2025

2016	
Name	Total
CASTILLO, VALENTINA (PERS REP)	\$50.48

2017	
Name	Total
CASTILLO, VALENTINA (PERS REP)	\$60.12

2018	
Name	Total
CASTILLO, VALENTINA (PERS REP)	\$73.04

2021	
Name	Total
CASTILLO, VALENTINA (PERS REP)	\$74.05

2022	
Name	Total
CASTILLO, VALENTINA (PERS REP)	\$83.12
GRAY, STEVEN J	\$399.85
R, COLE, JENNIFER	\$313.69
SWITZER, RHONDA J	\$868.81
Total - 2022	\$1,665.47

2023	
Name	Total
CARON, JASON D	\$1,179.15
CASTILLO, VALENTINA (PERS REP)	\$70.03
CURTIS(HEIRS OF), SUSAN E	\$1,846.60
CUTLER, MICHAEL C	\$270.92
GRAY, STEVEN J	\$1,545.50
HALSEY, IAN	\$2,692.32
R, COLE, JENNIFER	\$316.96
SPARKS, DAVID R JR	\$1,150.85
SWITZER, RHONDA J	\$1,500.07
Total - 2023	\$10,572.40

2024	
Name	Total
CARON, JASON D	\$1,433.23
CASTILLO, VALENTINA (PERS REP)	\$62.78
CHASE, KENNET M JR	\$2,979.16
COLE, JENNIFER R	\$342.26
CURTIS (HEIRS OF), SUSAN E	\$2,522.11
CUTLER, MICHAEL C	\$346.56
DEPRES, MARK SR	\$1,417.14
DEWISEES OF CURREN, ROBERT J	\$901.19
DICKEY, DARRYL	\$4,637.49
GOODALL PROPERTIES-DELAWARE	\$1,498.83
GRAY, STEVEN J	\$2,062.07
HALSEY, IAN	\$3,437.85
HEATH, GEORGE MRS	\$1,782.68
JOHNSON, PATRICIA L	\$1,971.42
MALTAIS, RICHARD	\$1,179.87
MCKINNEY, EARL N (JT)	\$600.07
MERRILL, TIMOTHY A JR	\$1,877.73
NEIMAN, RUSSELL C	\$52.15
POLLARD, KIM	\$114.38
PUIG, IRAN	\$2,410.33
SEARLES, MICKEY	\$1,004.39
SHAW, MATTHEW J	\$3,696.94
SKELTON, DAVID C	\$279.91
SMITH, JEREMY	\$670.92
SPARKS, DAVID R JR	\$2,337.25
SWITZER, RHONDA J	\$1,984.68
TEMPLE, AARON D	\$1,856.07
THREE ROBBERS PUB, INC.	\$4,102.14
Total - 2024	\$47,561.60

Total 2016-2023	\$12,495.56
Total 2024	\$47,561.60
Total Liens as of 05/06/2025	\$60,057.16

Outstanding Personal Property Taxes as of May 6, 2025

2007	
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$153.98

2008	
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$229.77

2009	
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$186.01
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$196.15
ZOULAMIS, DEAN	\$135.45

2010	
HILLTOP LOG HOMES INC	\$1,596.91
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$159.69
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$170.34
ZOULAMIS, DEAN	\$223.56

2011	
BEAULIEU, JASON	\$53.71
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$137.26
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$143.23
ZOULAMIS, DEAN	\$164.12

2012	
BEAULIEU, JASON	\$54.68
DOWNEAST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION	\$115.50
EAGLE ATM (C/O DELL HOLMAN)	\$172.69
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$135.28
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$141.03
STEEN, DAVID S	\$37.07
STILLWELL'S AUTO REPAIR INC	\$169.97

2013	
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$192.41
BEAULIEU, JASON	\$53.77
EAGLE ATM (C/O DELL HOLMAN)	\$45.27
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$138.65
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$328.71
NORTON INSURANCE AGENCY INC	\$22.42
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$144.31
STILLWELL'S AUTO REPAIR INC	\$316.92

2014	
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$194.37
BEAULIEU, JASON	\$55.53
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$36.10
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$138.84
LEIGHTON, RICHARD	\$12.46
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$344.32
NORTON INSURANCE AGENCY INC	\$44.43
ZOULAMIS, GREGORY	\$8.41

2015	
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$197.03
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$28.15
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$140.73
LEIGHTON, RICHARD	\$42.23
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$349.01
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$149.18
ZOULAMIS, GREGORY	\$501.00

2016	
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$191.27
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$19.12
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$136.62
LEIGHTON, RICHARD	\$41.00
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$338.81
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$144.83
SPRINT SPECTRUM, LP	\$2.61
ZOULAMIS, GREGORY	\$431.72

2017	
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$184.19
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$21.60
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$10.52
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$131.56
LEIGHTON, RICHARD	\$39.48
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$326.29
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$139.47
ZOULAMIS, GREGORY	\$360.51

Outstanding Personal Property Taxes con't...

2018	
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$179.13
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$255.90
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$10.24
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$127.95
LAMOREAU, SHAWN S	\$107.48
LEIGHTON, RICHARD	\$38.39
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$317.32
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$138.19
ZOULAMIS, GREGORY	\$317.32

2019	
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$173.83
BARTHOLOMEW, REGINA	\$270.66
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$248.31
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$9.94
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$124.16
LAMOREAU, SHAWN S	\$104.29
LEIGHTON, RICHARD	\$37.25
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$307.91
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$134.09
ZOULAMIS, GREGORY	\$268.18

2020	
AT&T MOBILITY LLC	\$0.05
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$154.30
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$220.42
ESTATE OF LUKE S. MACFADYEN	\$127.81
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$8.82
HITZ, PAUL M A	\$110.21
LAMOREAU, SHAWN S	\$92.57
MCKENNA, EUGENE R JR	\$5.84
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$246.87
PERRY, GORDON S	\$4.23
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$119.04
SANDELIN, HUGO	\$16.93

2021	
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$156.51
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$223.58
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$8.95
LAMOREAU, SHAWN S	\$93.90
MCKENNA, EUGENE R JR	\$8.95
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$250.40
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$120.74

2022	
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$142.37
BIGELOW, EARL	\$18.30
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$203.39
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$10.18
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$227.78
QUADIENT, INC. FKA NEOPOST USA,	\$2.04
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$113.89

2023	
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$138.26
BIGELOW, EARL	\$17.78
BOWDOINHAM HARDWARE STORE	\$42.07
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$197.52
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$9.88
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$221.21
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$110.60

2024	
ADT, LLC	\$2.78
BAMFORD FOUNDATIONS INC	\$150.48
BIGELOW, EARL	\$19.35
BUNN, STEVEN	\$22.15
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$214.98
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC	\$10.75
MCPHERSON, JAMES A	\$240.78
OAKES, FULTON	\$47.29
RIENDEAU-CARD, ROBIN	\$120.39
THREE ROBBERS PUB	\$195.62

**Total Outstanding Personal Property
as of 05/06/2025** **\$18,000.75**

Auditor's Report

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM, MAINE

*FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT*

*FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
ENDED JUNE 30, 2024*

The following pages are highlights from the FY 2024 Auditor's Report.

The report in it's entirety can be viewed on the Town's Website.

www.bowdoinham.com/annual-reports

James W. Wadman

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

James W. Wadman, C.P.A.
Ronald C. Bean, C.P.A.
Kellie M. Bowden, C.P.A.
Wanese L. Lynch, C.P.A.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Members of the Board of Selectmen
Town of Bowdoinham
Bowdoinham, ME 04008

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Bowdoinham, Maine (the Town) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, including the related notes to the financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Bowdoinham, Maine as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Town and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statements date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 3 through 6 and page 23 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the accompanying supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Respectfully Submitted,

James W. Wadman, CPA

James W. Wadman, CPA
November 12, 2024

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM, MAINE
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Management of the Town of Bowdoinham, Maine (the Town) provides this *Management's Discussion and Analysis* of the Town's financial performance for readers of the Town's financial statements. This narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town is for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. We encourage readers to consider this information in conjunction with the financial statements and accompanying notes that follow.

The financial statements herein include all of the activities of the Town using the integrated approach as prescribed by Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34 and related subsequent Statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS – PRIMARY GOVERNMENT

Government-wide Highlights:

Net Position – The assets of the Town exceeded its liabilities at fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 by \$9,864,252 (presented as “net position”). Of this amount, \$4,776,653 was reported as “unrestricted net position”. Unrestricted net position represents the amount available to be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

Changes in Net Position – The Town's total net position increased by \$2,165,215 (a 28.1% increase) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

Fund Highlights:

Governmental Funds – Fund Balances – As of the close of the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Town's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$7,628,564 with \$1,758,985 being general unassigned fund balance. This unassigned fund balance represents approximately 17.4% of the total general fund expenditures for the year.

Long-term Debt:

The Town's long-term debt obligations increased by \$722,800 (14.7%) during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. New long-term debt obligations were issued during the fiscal year for infrastructure improvements in the amount of \$1,000,000 and an excavator purchase in the amount of \$250,000. An advance payment of \$120,000 was paid on the excavator obligation. Other obligations were retired according to schedule.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Town's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements include three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains additional required supplementary information (budgetary comparison) and other supplementary information. These components are described below:

Government-wide Financial Statements

The Government-wide financial statements present the financial picture of the Town from the economic resources measurement focus using the accrual basis of accounting. They present governmental activities and business-type activities (if applicable) separately. These statements include all assets of the Town (including infrastructure) as well as all liabilities (including long-term debt, if applicable). Additionally, certain elimination entries have occurred as prescribed by the statement in regards to inter-fund activity, payables and receivables. The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 7-8 of this report.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements include statements for each of the three categories of activities – governmental, business-type (if applicable) and fiduciary. The governmental activities are prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the Town government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-

wide financial statements because the resources of these funds are not available to support the Town's own programs. Reconciliation of the fund financial statements to the Government-wide financial statements is provided to explain the differences created by the integrated approach. The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 9-10 of this report.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and the fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 11-22 of this report.

Required Supplementary Information

This section includes a budgetary comparison schedule, which includes a reconciliation between the statutory fund balance for budgetary purposes and the fund balance for the general fund as presented in the governmental fund financial statements (if necessary). Required supplementary information can be found on page 23 of this report.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Net Position

21.7% of the Town's net position reflects its investment in capital assets such as land, buildings, equipment and infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, parking lots and other immovable assets), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The Town uses these assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although, the Town's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt (if applicable), it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

	<i>Governmental</i>	<i>Business-type</i>		
	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Total 2024</i>	<i>Total 2023</i>
<i>Assets & Other Debits:</i>				
Current Assets & Other Debits	7,859,189	-	7,859,189	6,450,238
Capital Assets	7,767,077	-	7,767,077	6,223,402
<i>Total Assets & Other Debits</i>	15,626,266	-	15,626,266	12,673,641
<i>Liabilities & Other Credits:</i>				
Current Liabilities & Other Credits	556,831	-	556,831	431,832
Long-Term Liabilities	5,205,182	-	5,205,182	4,542,772
<i>Total Liabilities and Other</i>	5,762,013	-	5,762,013	4,974,604
<i>Net Position:</i>				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	2,144,457	-	2,144,457	1,323,581
Restricted	2,943,142	-	2,943,142	3,024,088
Unrestricted	4,776,653	-	4,776,653	3,351,368
<i>Total Net Position</i>	9,864,252	-	9,864,252	7,699,037
<i>Total Liabilities & Net Position</i>	15,626,266	-	15,626,266	12,673,641

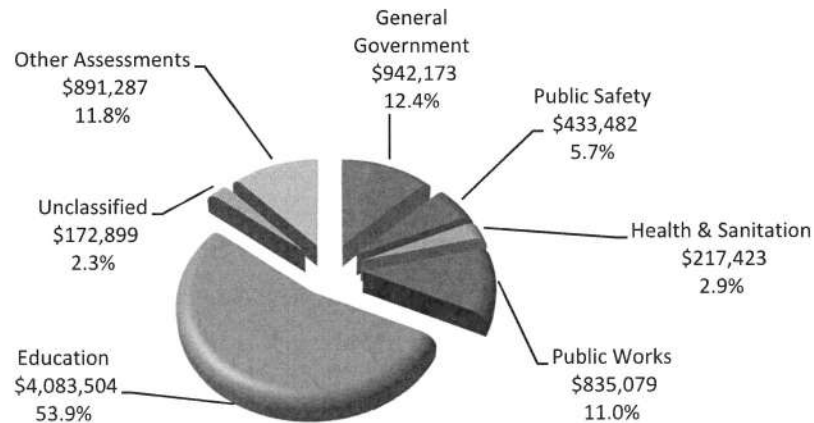
Changes in Net Position

Approximately 84 percent of the Town's total revenue came from property and excise taxes, approximately 9 percent came from Federal and State subsidies and grants, and approximately 7 percent came from services, investment earnings and other sources. Depreciation expense on the Town's governmental and business-type activity assets represents \$323,745 of the total expenses for the fiscal year.

CAPITAL ASSET ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

Expenditures by Source - Governmental and Business-Type



FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE TOWN'S INDIVIDUAL FUNDS

Governmental Funds

The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of expendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

At the end of the fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported ending fund balances of \$7,628,564, an increase of \$1,331,124 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 23 percent of this fund balance constitutes general unassigned fund balance. The remainder is reserved to indicate that it is not available for spending because it has been committed to liquidate contracts and commitments of the prior fiscal year or for a variety of other purposes.

Variances between actual General Fund revenues and expenditures and the final amended budget included the following:

- \$24,762 positive variance in revenues. The Town experienced unfavorable property collection during the fiscal year in the amount of \$53,433. In addition, the Town received \$62,516 of investment earnings in excess of budget.
- \$433,510 positive variance in expenditures. All departments operated within budget. Overlay on property taxes totaled \$26,501.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances for all citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors. This financial report seeks to demonstrate the Town's accountability for the money it receives. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to: Town of Bowdoinham, 13 School Street, Bowdoinham, ME 04008.

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM, MAINE

(Exhibit IV)

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES

AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>Capital Project Fund CMP TIF</i>	<i>Other Governmental Funds</i>	<i>Total Governmental Funds</i>
<i>Revenues:</i>				
Tax Revenues, Including Exemptions	\$7,453,866			\$7,453,866
Excise Taxes	\$720,161			\$720,161
State Revenue Sharing	\$508,231			\$508,231
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	\$9,502			\$9,502
Investment Earnings (Losses)	\$122,516		\$71,120	\$193,637
Town Fees and Licenses	\$89,699			\$89,699
Grants, Subsidies and Donations	\$65,289		\$510,578	\$575,867
Solid Waste Revenues	\$101,936			\$101,936
Other Revenues	\$15,927		\$18,794	\$34,721
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>\$9,087,128</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$600,492</u>	<u>\$9,687,621</u>
<i>Expenditures (Net of Departmental Revenues):</i>				
General Government	\$920,157		\$54,722	\$974,879
Public Safety	\$384,250		\$37,150	\$421,400
Health & Sanitation	\$181,777		\$50,561	\$232,338
Education	\$4,083,504			\$4,083,504
Public Works	\$935,969		\$1,494,689	\$2,430,657
Unclassified	\$115,905		\$52,754	\$168,659
Other Assessments & Debt Service	\$1,295,058			\$1,295,058
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>\$7,916,620</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$1,689,876</u>	<u>\$9,606,496</u>
<i>Excess Revenues Over Expenditures</i>	\$1,170,508	\$0	(\$1,089,384)	\$81,124
<i>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</i>				
Finance Purchase Obligation / Bond Proceeds	\$1,250,000			\$1,250,000
Operating Transfers In	\$5,460	\$374,371	\$2,193,227	\$2,573,057
Operating Transfers Out	(\$2,160,505)	(\$407,092)	(\$5,460)	(\$2,573,057)
<i>Net Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balances</i>	\$265,462	(\$32,722)	\$1,098,383	\$1,331,124
<i>Beginning Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$2,096,891</u>	<u>\$2,136,649</u>	<u>\$2,063,900</u>	<u>\$6,297,440</u>
<i>Ending Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$2,362,353</u>	<u>\$2,103,928</u>	<u>\$3,162,283</u>	<u>\$7,628,564</u>
<i>Reconciliation to Statement of Activities, change in Net Position</i>				
Net Change in Fund Balances - Above				\$1,331,124
Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. This amount reflects the net change in unavailable revenues.				\$53,443
Governmental funds report long-term debt proceeds as an Other Financing Source, while repayment of long-term debt principal is reported as an expenditure. This amount reflects debt proceeds, net of debt repayment.				(\$722,800)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds: Compensated Absences				(\$40,227)
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures, while in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over the useful lives as depreciation expense.				
This amount reflects capital expenditures, net of depreciation expense of \$323,745				\$1,543,676
<i>Changes in Net Position of Governmental Activities</i>				<u>\$2,165,215</u>

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an Integral Part of this Statement.

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM, MAINE
SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

(Exhibit A-1, page 1 of 2)

<u>Department</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Total Available</u>	<u>Net Expenditures</u>	<u>Operating Transfers Out</u>	<u>Lapsed Unexpended (Overdraft)</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<u>General Government:</u>							
Administration & Personal Services		\$795,843	\$795,843	\$678,482		\$117,361	
Planning & Code Enforcement		\$150,266	\$150,266	\$107,867		\$42,399	
Contingency		\$15,000	\$15,000			\$15,000	
General Services		\$47,000	\$47,000	\$47,271		(\$271)	
Town Facilities		\$119,350	\$119,350	\$86,537	\$14,000	\$18,813	
Capital Improvement Reserve		\$7,500	\$7,500		\$7,500	\$0	
Town Hall & Office Reserve		\$90,000	\$90,000		\$90,000	\$0	
Electronic Equipment		\$3,500	\$3,500		\$3,500	\$0	
Riverfront Building Reserve		\$2,000	\$2,000		\$2,000	\$0	
Cemetery Reserve		\$15,000	\$15,000		\$15,000	\$0	
	\$0	\$1,245,459	\$1,245,459	\$920,157	\$132,000	\$193,302	\$0
<u>Public Safety:</u>							
Fire Department		\$383,900	\$383,900	\$361,098	\$15,000	\$7,802	
Fire Department Reserve		\$67,000	\$67,000		\$67,000	\$0	
Animal Control / Harbormaster		\$27,810	\$27,810	\$23,152		\$4,658	
			\$0			\$0	
	\$0	\$478,710	\$478,710	\$384,250	\$82,000	\$12,460	\$0
<u>Health & Sanitation:</u>							
Solid Waste & Recycling		\$219,379	\$219,379	\$181,777	\$15,000	\$22,602	
Solid Waste & Recycling Reserve		\$15,000	\$15,000		\$15,000	\$0	
	\$0	\$234,379	\$234,379	\$181,777	\$30,000	\$22,602	\$0
<u>Education:</u>							
School Assessment		\$4,083,504	\$4,083,504	\$4,083,504		\$0	
	\$0	\$4,083,504	\$4,083,504	\$4,083,504	\$0	\$0	\$0

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM, MAINE
SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

(Exhibit A-1, page 2 of 2)

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Total Available</u>	<u>Net Expenditures</u>	<u>Operating Transfers Out</u>	<u>Lapsed Unexpended (Overdraft)</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<u>Public Works</u>							
Operations		\$496,151	\$496,151	\$470,307	\$75,000	(\$49,156)	
Public Works Reserve		\$440,000	\$440,000		\$440,000	\$0	
Excavator		\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000		\$0	
Road Projects		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	\$0	
Road Maintenance		\$93,500	\$93,500	\$85,025		\$8,475	
Winter Roads		\$217,834	\$217,834	\$130,637		\$87,197	
	\$0	\$2,497,485	\$2,497,485	\$935,969	\$1,515,000	\$46,516	\$0
<u>Unclassified:</u>							
Recreation		\$121,997	\$121,997	\$112,493	\$2,500	\$7,004	
Recreation Reserve		\$10,000	\$10,000		\$10,000	\$0	
Agency Requests		\$3,412	\$3,412	\$3,412		\$0	
	\$0	\$135,409	\$135,409	\$115,905	\$12,500	\$7,004	\$0
<u>Other Assessments & Debt Service</u>							
Tax Increment Financing - Pipeline		\$81,950	\$81,950	\$67,316	\$14,634	(\$0)	
Tax Increment Financing - CMP		\$430,237	\$430,237	\$55,866	\$374,371	\$0	
Debt Service		\$557,671	\$557,671	\$554,046		\$3,625	
County Tax		\$617,830	\$617,830	\$617,830		\$0	
Overlay		\$26,501	\$26,501			\$26,501	
	\$0	\$1,714,189	\$1,714,189	\$1,295,058	\$389,005	\$30,126	\$0
<u>TOTALS</u>	\$0	\$10,389,135	\$10,389,135	\$7,916,620	\$2,160,505	\$312,010	\$0

2026 Municipal Budget Message

Nicole Briand, Town Manager

To the Citizens of Bowdoinham,

The proposed budget reflects a \$484 decrease in the net budget, therefore there would be no increase in property taxes due to the Town's Municipal Budget. While the department expense budget has a proposed increase of \$80,219 or 1.9%, that proposed increase is offset with an increase of \$80,703 (4%) in estimated revenues. The three areas with the largest increase in estimated revenues proposed are Municipal Revenue Sharing, Automobile Excise and Investment Income. There is an estimated \$83,500 decrease in the Homestead Reimbursement income, due to the Town's certified ratio dropping to 73%.

The spending levels outlined in this budget attempt to provide the programs and services that the residents of Bowdoinham have experienced over the past several years while maintaining our efforts in the capital improvement area. It is our goal to provide the citizens of this community with the best level of service possible within the financial resources available. The budget development process begins with the receipt of budget requests from Department Heads, followed by the Town Manager's review. The budget is then submitted to the Finance Advisory Committee, then the Select Board and lastly submitted to the voters for final adoption at Town Meeting.

Budget Highlights

Wages & Benefits

This budget reflects our continued efforts in wage adjustments to maintain our staff at the median level wage for their positions and job responsibilities. I have also budgeted a 2.0% allowance for wage increases based on performance evaluations for all employees.

The health insurance plan increased 12% for the year, with employees moving to a higher deductible plan; our plan year is March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026. I've budgeted based on the insurance package each eligible employee is currently taking. However, to ensure there are funds available if employees change their plan or staff changes, funding will be needed in the Employee Health Benefits Reserve.

Administration

The Administration budget shows an increase of \$13,829 or 1.7%, which includes: funding for wage adjustments for office staff, increase in our IT Services and Legal Services, and decreases in our copier lease agreement and heating line items.

Debt Services

The Debt Services Budget shows an increase of \$5,401, or 0.8%. We will have the first full payments due for the fire truck bond (\$750,000) and the road refinance bond (\$1,000,000). These new payments are mostly offset with the payoff of the Camden Road Bond, Excavator, and Loader in FY25.

Town Facilities & Maintenance

The Town Facilities & Maintenance budget shows an overall decrease of \$2,000, or -1.9%. This is due to the streetlight project being completed. This decrease in our streetlight costs offsets the increase in the utilities for the waterfront and Town Hall.

Fire & Rescue Department

The Fire and Rescue Department budget has a proposed increase of \$1,682, or 0.4%, due to the following:

- a 5% increase of \$8,912 in our ambulance contract with Lisbon Emergency,
- reductions in employee benefits costs and heating costs; budgeting actual costs, and
- two new line items for mileage reimbursement and technology. Technology includes a printer, computers and software.

2026 Municipal Budget Message con't...

Animal Control Officer and Harbor Master Department

These department budgets show an overall increase of \$68, or 0.2%. We've reduced expense lines to offset wage adjustments.

Public Works

The Public Works budget shows an overall increase of \$35,568 or 4%, which includes:

- funding for wage adjustments,
- decreases for winter maintenance and heating to reflect actual costs,
- increases in vehicle maintenance, building maintenance and tools,
- a new line item for technology, for a printer, computers, and new software for tracking vehicle and equipment maintenance, and
- increases in highway maintenance for the maintenance of shoulders, ditches and dirt roads.

Solid Waste and Recycling

The Solid Waste and Recycling budget shows an overall increase of \$6,840, or 3.1%, which includes:

- funding for wage adjustments, and
- increases costs for contracts.

The estimated revenue for this department is \$100,500, making the net cost of the department to taxpayers \$124,287.

Recreation & Community Services

The Recreation budget shows a proposed increase of \$6,980 or 4.5%, which includes: funding for wage adjustments for staff, and expanding the Summer Art Program to be an all-day Art and Nature program. The revenue for the Art & Nature Summer Program is planned to cover the cost of the program. The estimated revenue for this department is \$33,090, making the net cost of the department to taxpayers \$127,754.

Planning & Development

The Planning & Development budget shows a proposed increase of \$7,134 or 4.7% for wage adjustments. Reductions have been made in the operating expenses to offset some of this increase.

Capital Reserves

The Capital Reserves budget is based on the Capital Improvement Plan, a one-page detail for this year's request is included as Attachment 1.

Tax Impact

The municipal budget as proposed would not affect the tax rate.

Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Briand
Town Manager
Town of Bowdoinham
Ph: (207) 666-5531

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

CAPITAL PROJECT	RESERVE	PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET	CAPITAL PROJECT	RESERVE	PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET
BUILDING FACILITIES PROGRAM					
Municipal Building			Fire Reserve cont'n...		
Future Septic Repairs, Upgrades	Capital Improvement Reserve TH/TO Reserve, Grants	\$2,500 \$15,000	Equipment	Fire Reserve	\$25,000
Town Hall Building	Town Office-Hall Reserve	\$5,000	SCBA Airpacks	Fire Reserve	\$2,000
Repairs			Other		
Public Works Facility	Public Works Reserve	\$2,000	Subtotal	Subtotal	\$67,000
Future Repairs					
Fire Station	Fire Reserve	\$5,000	Public Works Reserve		
Future Repairs	Recycling Reserve	\$5,000	Heavy Duty Trucks		\$95,000
Recycling Facility	Recreation Reserve	\$2,000	2020 Freightliner 108SD w/ 7 yard dump (#6)	Public Works Reserve	
Recreation Facility	Capital Improvement Reserve	\$2,000	2017 Freightliner 108SD w/ 7 yard dump (#5)	Public Works Reserve	
Yellow Riverfront Building	Cemetery Reserve	\$20,000	2016 Freightliner 114SD w/ 12 yard dump (#4)	Public Works Reserve	
Future Repairs			2018 Ford F-550 Superduty w/ dump (#2)	Public Works Reserve	
Cemeteries			2020 Ram 5500 Tradesman	Public Works Reserve	
			2014 Mack GUT7 w/ 14 yard dump	Public Works Reserve	
Subtotal		\$58,500	2006 Volvo w/ 10 yard dump	Public Works Reserve	
			Light Duty/Utility Trucks		
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PROGRAM					
Admin			2014 Dodge RAM 1500 PU 4x4 (#1)	Public Works Reserve	\$15,000
Replace Computer Server & Rack Computers	Electronic Equipment Reserve	\$2,000	Heavy Equipment		\$35,000
Technology/Safety Improvements	Capital Improvement Reserve	\$5,000	Other Capital Equipment		\$15,000
			Subtotal	Subtotal	\$160,000
Subtotal		\$9,500	Recycling Reserve		
			Equipment	Recycling Reserve	\$5,000
Fire Reserve			Subtotal	Subtotal	\$5,000
Primary Pumps	Fire Reserve & Bond	\$20,000	Roads	Public Works Reserve	\$350,000
2011 E-One Class A Pumper (Engine #1) Tanker					
2007 Freightliner (Tank #3)	Fire Reserve & Bond	\$20,000	Subtotal	Subtotal	\$350,000
				GRAND TOTAL	
				\$650,000	

Bowdoinham Municipal Budget FY 2025/2026

Department Expenses	FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Budget Request	Increase/Decrease	Increase/Decrease
Administration	633,436	795,740	810,867	824,696	13,829	1.7%
General Services	86,500	47,000	47,000	49,500	2,500	5.3%
Debt Services	486,120	522,671	697,361	702,762	5,401	0.8%
Fire & Rescue Department	111,900	383,900	412,008	413,690	1,682	0.4%
Town Facilities Maintenance	110,350	119,350	106,850	104,850	-2,000	-1.9%
Animal Control/Harbor Master	25,532	27,810	38,809	38,877	68	0.2%
Public Works	654,821	807,485	883,528	919,096	35,568	4.0%
Solid Waste & Recycling	206,472	219,379	217,946	224,787	6,840	3.1%
Recreation & Community Services	75,687	121,997	153,864	160,844	6,980	4.5%
Planning, Development & Codes	137,990	150,266	150,214	157,347	7,134	4.7%
Contingency	10,000	15,000	0	0	0	0.0%
Organization Requests	2,223	3,412	2,695	4,912	2,217	82.3%
Capital Reserves	132,500	650,000	650,000	650,000	0	0.0%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,673,532	\$ 3,864,010	\$ 4,161,141	\$ 4,241,361	\$ 80,219	1.9%
Revenues				FY 25/26 Budget Request	Increase/Decrease	Increase/Decrease
Non-Property Tax Revenues	994,948	1,030,494	1,122,625	1,186,828	64,203	5.7%
Undesignated Fund Balance	100,000	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Homestead Reimbursement	232,000	250,000	310,000	226,500	-83,500	-26.9%
Municipal Revenue Sharing	390,000	415,000	550,000	650,000	100,000	18.2%
BETE Reimbursement	800	3,000	13,000	13,000	0	0.0%
TOTAL (Non-Property Tax) REVENUES	\$ 1,717,748	\$ 1,698,494	\$ 1,995,625	\$ 2,076,328	\$ 80,703	4.0%
NET MUNICIPAL BUDGET	\$ 955,784	\$ 2,165,516	\$ 2,165,516	\$ 2,165,033	\$ (484)	-0.02%

**BOWDOINHAM FY2025-26 MUNICIPAL BUDGET
ESTIMATED REVENUES**

	FY22/23		FY23/24		FY24/25		FY25/26	
	Budgeted	Received	Budgeted	Received	Budgeted	As of	Budget	\$ Inc/Dec % Inc/Dec
Tax Collector's Revenue								
1 Excise - Boat	6,000	5,495	6,000	4,589	5,500	1,715	5,000	-500 -9.1%
2 Excise - Automobile	700,000	670,879	675,000	721,904	675,000	556,001	700,000	25,000 3.7%
3 Motor Vehicle Agent Fees	11,000	15,496	15,000	15,652	15,000	11,269	15,000	0 0.0%
4 Veterans Reimbursement	4,000	0	3,750	3,750	3,400	0	3,500	100 2.9%
5 Interest on Taxes	13,000	22,681	25,000	11,059	10,000	11,468	11,000	1,000 10.0%
6 Total Tax Collectors Revenue	734,000	714,551	724,750	756,953	708,900	580,454	734,500	25,600 3.6%
Treasurer's Revenue								
7 Local Road Assistance	36,988	36,784	36,784	36,784	40,000	40,000	43,000	3,000 7.5%
9 Snowmobile Reg. Fees	1,000	887	750	728	750	602	700	-50 -6.7%
10 General Assistance Reimb.	2,500	8,136	5,000	6,338	4,000	4,848	5,000	1,000 25.0%
11 State Park Fees								
12 Tree Growth Reimbursement	9,000	9,700	9,000	11,447	10,000	15,139	15,000	5,000 50.0%
13 Total Treasurer's Revenue	49,488	55,507	51,534	55,296	54,750	60,589	63,700	8,950 16.3%
Solid Waste Revenue								
14 General Disposal Fees	2,000	2,037	2,000	2,280	2,500	1,010	2,500	0 0.0%
16 Solid Waste Tag Fees	100,000	88,965	100,000	91,311	90,000	73,593	90,000	0 0.0%
17 Hazardous Waste Disp Fees	600	0	0	0	0	28	0	0 0.0%
18 Recyclable Materials Sales	5,000	6,818	5,000	8,345	8,000	5,278	8,000	0 0.0%
19 Total Solid Waste & Recycling Revenue	107,600	97,819	107,000	101,936	100,500	79,909	100,500	0 0.0%
Recreation Revenue								
20 Recreation Advertising/Banners	3,000	0	1,500	0	1,000	0	1,040	40 4.0%
22 Recreation Fundraising	9,000	0	3,000	1,000	500	146	1,050	550 110.0%
23 Recreation Food Sales	2,500	1,340	5,000	5,321	2,500	1,832	3,000	500 20.0%
24 Recreation Registration	7,000	8,686	7,500	6,753	21,000	33,223	24,000	3,000 14.3%
25 Recreation Sponsors	2,000	2,475	3,000	3,459	3,000	2,938	3,000	0 0.0%
26 Age-Friendly Activities-&Events	3,400	0	1,200	1,568	1,000	91	500	-500 -50.0%
27 Age-Friendly Events					2,000		500	-1,500 -75.0%
28 Total Recreation Revenue	26,900	12,501	21,200	18,101	31,000	38,230	33,090	2,090 6.7%

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM FY2025/2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET REQUEST
ADMINISTRATION**

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
	<u>Personnel</u>						
1	Town Manager Salary	87,000	92,000	102,000	105,060	3,060	3.0%
2	Administrative Personnel	171,425	204,880	212,200	228,250	16,050	7.6%
3	Allowance for Merit Wage In- creases(2%)	3,429	4,098	4,244	6,666	2,422	57.1%
4	Assessing Personnel	35,000	40,000				
5	Subtotal:	\$296,854	\$340,978	\$318,444	\$339,976	21,532	6.8%
6							
7	<u>Support & Benefits</u>						
8	FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	22,709	26,085	24,361	26,008	1,647	6.8%
9	Health, Retirement & Benefits	82,614	129,881	133,481	103,635	-29,846	-22.4%
10	Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			1,592	1,700	108	
11	Subtotal:	\$105,323	\$155,966	\$159,434	\$131,343	-28,091	-17.6%
12							
13	Subtotal Personnel:	\$402,177	\$496,943	\$477,878	\$471,319	-6,559	-1.4%
14							
15	<u>Professional Services</u>						
16	Legal Expense	20,000	85,000	50,000	75,000	25,000	50.0%
17	Maine Municipal Assoc. Dues	4,250	4,500	4,500	4,700	200	4.4%
18	Municipal Audit Services	9,500	12,000	12,000	12,500	500	4.2%
19	IT Services	10,000	10,000	10,000	12,000	2,000	20.0%
20	Assessing Services	25,000	0	40,000	40,000	0	
21	Subtotal:	\$ 68,750	\$111,500	\$116,500	\$144,200	27,700	23.8%
22							
23	<u>Boards & Stipends</u>						
24	Selectmen's Stipend	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	0	0.0%
25	Election Stipends	5,300	5,500	6,500	6,500	0	0.0%
26	Health Officer	750	750	750	750	0	0.0%
27	Cemetery Sexton	1,000	1,800	2,000	2,250	250	12.5%
28	FICA/Medicare (7.65%) & Leave Payroll Tax (0.05%)	1,037	1,113	1,284	1,304	20	1.6%
29	Subtotal:	\$ 14,587	\$ 15,663	\$ 17,034	\$ 17,304	270	1.6%
30							
31	<u>Operating Expenses</u>						
32	Printing & Publications	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
33	Election Expenses	7,000	7,000	8,000	7,500	-500	-6.3%
34	Training, Certs & Dues	7,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	0	0.0%
35	Website Maintenance/Updates	1,640	1,640	3,440	3,440	0	0.0%
36	Ordinance Enforcement	200	0	0	0	0	0.0%
37	Broadcast/Recording	2,900	2,900	2,990	2,900	-90	-3.0%
38	Miscellaneous Expense	500	500	500	1,000	500	100.0%
39	Payroll Service Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
40	Mileage Reimbursement	3,000	4,000	4,000	3,500	-500	-12.5%
41	Office Supplies	5,000	5,500	6,000	6,000	0	0.0%
42	Postage & Bulk Mail	6,500	8,000	8,000	7,500	-500	-6.3%
43	Registry of Deeds	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
44	Subtotal:	\$ 41,740	\$ 45,540	\$ 48,930	\$ 47,840	\$ (1,090)	-2.2%

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM FY2025/2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET REQUEST
ADMINISTRATION**

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
45							
46	<u>Planning Expenses</u>						
47	Mapping Expense	3,000	4,000	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
48	Subtotal:	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	0	0.0%
49							
50	<u>Equipment Maint./Repair</u>						
51	Equip.Replace/Repair/Computer Maint	4,500	4,500	5,000	4,500	-500	-10.0%
52	Software Licenses and Security	21,960	27,640	32,600	32,000	-600	-1.8%
53	Postage Meter-Lease/Purchase	600	600	600	600	0	0.0%
54	Copier Lease/Maint. Agreement	7,500	7,500	7,000	5,000	-2,000	-28.6%
55	Subtotal:	\$ 34,560	\$ 40,240	\$ 45,200	\$ 42,100	-\$3,100	-6.9%
56							
57	<u>Utilities Expense</u>						
58	Electricity	5,500	5,500	5,000	5,500	500	10.0%
59	Heating Expense	3,500	4,500	4,500	2,500	-2,000	-44.4%
60	Water Service	1,000	600	500	500	0	0.0%
61	Telephone (& Internet) Expense	6,000	5,000	5,500	5,500	0	0.0%
62	Subtotal:	\$ 16,000	\$ 15,600	\$ 15,500	\$ 14,000	-\$1,500	-9.7%
63							
64	<u>Risk Management</u>						
65	Public Officials Liability	3,571	3,647	3,804	3,681	-123	-3.2%
66	Employee Bonding	462	747	705	733	28	4.0%
67	Worker's Comp	16,830	26,706	46,706	40,000	-6,706	-14.4%
68	Unemployment	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0.0%
69	General Liability & Property	9,053	11,299	12,453	14,462	2,009	16.1%
70	Vehicle and Mobile Equip Insurance	12,586	20,255	19,058	22,457	3,399	17.8%
71	Fire Dept Ins.	8,520	2,000	2,000	1,500	-500	-25.0%
72	Subtotal:	\$ 52,622	\$ 66,254	\$ 86,325	\$ 84,432	-\$1,893	-2.2%
73							
74	Total Administration Budget	\$633,436	\$795,740	\$810,867	\$824,696	\$13,829	1.7%

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM FY2025/2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET REQUEST
GENERAL SERVICES & DEBT SERVICE**

	FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
	GENERAL SERVICES BUDGET					
1	General Assistance	4,500	10,000	10,000	12,500	2,500 25.0%
2	Library Appropriation	25,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	0 0.0%
3	Snowbirds Appropriation	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0 0.0%
4	Bowdoinham Historical Society (Document Preservation)	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0 0.0%
5	Bowdoinham Historical Society (Merrymeeting Hall Utilities)	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	0 0.0%
6	Ambulance Contract	50,000	0	0	0	0 0.0%
7	General Services Budget:	\$ 86,500	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	\$ 49,500	2,500 5.3%
8						
9						
10	DEBT SERVICE BUDGET					
11	2025 Fire Pumper Truck (MMBB 15yr - 3.2773%)				72,341	72,341
12	2025 Road Refi (MMBB 10yr - 2.8636%)				126,660	126,660
13	2023 Excavator (Andro. 10yr - 3.75%)			31,378	0	-31,378 -100.0%
14	2024 Road Bond (Andro. 10yr - 5.885%)			145,000	0	-145,000 -100.0%
15	2022 Road Bond - (Andro. 10yr - 3.75%)		48,712	48,712	48,712	0 0.0%
16	2020 Debt Consolidation Loan (MMBB 10yr - 3.14%)	166,184	166,184	166,184	166,184	0 0.0%
17	2021 Mallon Brook Stream Crossing (Andro. 15yr - 2.71%)	20,508	20,508	20,508	20,508	0 0.0%
18	2021 Road & Fire Parking Lot Bond (Andro. 10yr - 2.44%)	102,522	102,522	102,522	102,522	0 0.0%
19	PW Facil Bond (MMBB 30yr - 1.82-4.215%)	153,150	151,599	149,994	148,349	-1,645 -1.1%
20	2011 Fire Truck Bond (MMBB 15 yr - 2.13%)	17,742	17,657	17,572	17,486	-86 -0.5%
21	2013 Lease/Purchase Backhoe (Cat 10yr - 3.2%)	10,525				
22	2015 Lease/Purchase Loader (Cat 10 yr - 2.5%)	15,489	15,489	15,491	0	-15,491 -100.0%
23						
24	Debt Service Budget:	\$486,120	\$522,671	\$697,361	\$702,762	5,401 0.8%

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM FY2025/2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET REQUEST
FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT**

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
	<u>Administration</u>		-	-	-	-	-
1	Fire Chief Salary	20,800	23,565	80,393	84,413	4,020	5.0%
2	Fire & Rescue Volunteers	24,000	24,000	28,000	28,000	0	0.0%
2	Emergency Management Dir.	1,000	1,000				
3	Allowance for Merit Wage Increases			1,607	1,688	81	5.1%
4	Subtotal:	\$ 45,800	\$ 48,565	\$110,000	\$114,101	4,101	3.7%
	<u>Support & Benefits</u>						
5	FICA/Medicare (7.65%)		3,715	8,415	8,729	314	3.7%
6	Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			550	571	21	3.7%
7	Health, Retirement & Benefits			35,035	21,870	-13,165	-37.6%
8	Earned Paid Leave	1,000	1,500	0	0	0	
9	Subtotal:	\$ 1,000	\$ 5,215	\$ 44,000	\$ 31,169	-12,831	-29.2%
10	-						
11	<u>Operating Expense</u>						
12	EMS - Ambulance Services		250,000	177,658	186,570	8,912	5.0%
13	Training	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
14	Mileage				2,000	2,000	
15	Equipment	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	0	0.0%
16	Dues/Memberships	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
17	Technology				2,000	2,000	
18	Office Supplies	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%
19	Physicals/Innoculations	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
20	Radio Purchase & Repair	2,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	-1,000	-33.3%
21	Personal Protective Clothing	8,500	15,000	15,000	15,000	0	0.0%
22	Equipment Testing	4,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
23	Building Maintenance	8,500	8,500	8,500	8,500	0	0.0%
23	Subtotal:	\$ 48,500	306,500	234,158	246,070	11,912	5.1%
24	-						
25	<u>Utilities Expense</u>						
26	Electricity	3,500	5,000	4,750	4,750	0	0.0%
27	Heating Expense	3,500	5,000	5,000	3,500	-1,500	-30.0%
28	Water Service	400	500	500	500	0	0.0%
29	Telephone & Internet	1,200	3,120	3,600	3,600	0	0.0%
30	Subtotal:	\$ 8,600	\$ 13,620	\$ 13,850	\$ 12,350	-1,500	-10.8%
31	-						
32	<u>Vehicle Maintenance</u>						
33	Diesel	3,000					
34	Vehicle Maintenance	5,000	10,000	10,000	10,000		0.0%
35	Subtotal:	\$ 8,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
36	-						
37	Fire & Rescue Department Budget:	\$111,900	\$383,900	\$412,008	\$413,690	1,682	0.4%

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM FY2025/2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET REQUEST
TOWN FACILITIES MAINTENANCE**

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
	<u>Town Facilities Maintenance</u>						
1	Custodial & Supplies	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	0	0.0%
2	Town Office Maint & Repair	5,000	7,500	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
3	Town Hall Maint & Repair				0		
4	Town Hall Utilities	5,300	6,000	1,000	3,000	2,000	200.0%
5	Waterfront Maintenance & Repair	5,000	15,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
6	Waterfront Utilities	10,800	5,500	5,500	6,500	1,000	18.2%
7	Hydrant Rental	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	0	0.0%
8	Street Lighting	15,000	15,000	10,000	5,000	-5,000	-50.0%
9	Memorial Day	750	750	750	750	0	0.0%
10	Riverfront-Yellow Bldg Maint & Uti-	500	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0.0%
11	Town Landfill (Carding Machine Rd)	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
12	Town Facilities Maintenance:	\$110,350	\$119,350	\$106,850	\$104,850	-2,000	-1.9%

ACO/HARBOR MASTER

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
	<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
1	Animal Control Officer Salary	10,628	11,400	15,600	15,912	312	2.0%
2	Harbor Master salary	2,340	2,880	3,630	4,175	545	15.0%
3	Earned Paid Leave	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
4	FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	1,069	1,169	1,586	1,651	66	4.1%
5	Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			104	108	4	4.1%
6	Sub-total	\$ 15,037	\$ 16,449	\$ 22,316	\$ 23,238	922	4.1%
7							
8	<u>ACO</u>						
9	Telephone	400	240	240	240	0	0.0%
10	Mileage Reimbursement	3,600	3,600	4,000	3,600	-400	-10.0%
11	Animal Shelter Contract	4,420	4,631	4,863	5,009	146	3.0%
12	Feral Cat/Disposal	0	0	0			0.0%
13	Supplies & Equip.	250	250	250	250	0	0.0%
14	Training	400	400	400	300	-100	-25.0%
15	Sub-total	\$ 9,070	\$ 9,121	\$ 9,753	\$ 9,399	-354	-3.6%
16							
17	<u>HARBOR MASTER</u>						
18	Training & Membership	525	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
19	Supplies & Equip	800	1,000	1,500	1,000	-500	-33.3%
20	Telephone	100	240	240	240	0	0.0%
21	Navigational/No-wake Aids			4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
22	Sub-total	\$ 1,425	\$ 2,240	\$ 6,740	\$ 6,240	-500	-7.4%
23							
24	Animal Control/Harbor Budget:	\$ 25,532	\$ 27,810	\$ 38,809	\$ 38,877	68	0.2%

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM FY2025/2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET REQUEST
PUBLIC WORKS**

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
	Personnel						
1	Public Works Foreman	56,160	62,400	81,570	85,648	4,078	5.0%
2	PW Personnel	133,120	199,680	228,394	239,949	11,555	5.1%
3	Allowance for Merit Wage Increase	3,786	\$ 5,242	\$ 6,199	\$ 6,512	313	5.0%
4	Subtotal:	\$193,066	\$267,322	\$316,163	\$332,109	15,946	5.0%
5							
6	FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	17,965	24,874	28,685	30,039	1,355	4.7%
7	Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			1,875	1,963	89	4.7%
8	Health, Retirement & Benefits	88,122	132,655	108,505	101,920	-6,585	-6.1%
9	Subtotal:	\$106,087	\$157,529	\$139,065	\$133,923	-5,142	-3.7%
10	Operating Expense						
11	Pubs/Training	1,600	1,600	2,000	1,500	-500	-25.0%
12	Technology				4,000	4,000	
13	Miscellaneous	2,600	2,800	2,500	2,500	0	0.0%
14	Vehicle Maintenance	20,000	28,000	30,000	35,000	5,000	16.7%
15	Tools/Equip/Radios	5,000	5,500	5,500	7,500	2,000	36.4%
16	Supplies				500	500	
17	Safety, Protect. Cloth & PPE	2,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
20	Building/Facility Maintenance	7,000	7,000	7,000	8,000	1,000	14.3%
21	Subtotal:	\$ 38,200	\$ 47,900	\$ 50,000	\$ 62,000	12,000	24.0%
22	Utilities						
25	Telephone/Internet	2,000	2,000	1,800	1,800	0	0.0%
26	Trash Removal	1,700	1,400	1,200	1,200	0	0.0%
27	Electricity	8,000	8,000	7,000	7,000	0	0.0%
30	Heating	11,000	12,000	12,000	10,000	-2,000	-16.7%
31	Subtotal:	\$ 22,700	\$ 23,400	\$ 22,000	\$ 20,000	-2,000	-9.1%
32	Highway Maintenance						
33	Mow/Ditching/Culverts	10,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	10,000	100.0%
34	Gravel/Grading/Maintenance	30,000	30,000	25,000	35,000	10,000	40.0%
35	Signage	1,500	2,000	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
36	Paving/Surf Maint	30,000	30,000	25,000	25,000	0	0.0%
37	Gas/Diesel	14,000	21,500	22,000	22,000	0	0.0%
38	Subtotal:	\$ 85,500	\$ 93,500	\$ 83,500	\$103,500	20,000	24.0%
39	Snow & Ice Removal						
40	Plowing & Sanding Contract(s)	25,000	0				
41	PW Overtime	41,769	57,834	58,800	60,564	1,764	3.0%
42	Road Salt and Sand	100,000	110,000	135,000	130,000	-5,000	-3.7%
43	Gas/Diesel (winter)	17,500	20,000	37,000	32,000	-5,000	-13.5%
44	Winter Vehicle & Equip. Main.	25,000	30,000	42,000	45,000	3,000	7.1%
45	Subtotal:	\$209,269	\$217,834	\$272,800	\$267,564	-5,236	-1.9%
46							
47	Total Public Works Budget:	\$654,821	\$807,485	\$883,528	\$919,096	35,568	4.0%

Title 23 §2705. Appropriation insufficient: When the amount appropriated is not sufficient to repair or maintain the ways, a road commissioner may, with the written consent of the municipal officers, pay an amount not exceeding 15% of the amount so appropriated in addition to the amount appropriated.

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM FY2025/2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET REQUEST
SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING DEPT.**

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
	<u>Personnel</u>						
1	Recycling Personnel	33,142	34,580	35,840	37,653	1,813	5.1%
2	Recycling Director	28,997	31,200	39,765	41,776	2,011	5.1%
3	Allowance Merit Wage Increases (2%)	1,243	1,316	1,512	1,589	76	5.1%
4	Subtotal:	\$ 63,382	\$ 67,096	\$ 77,117	\$ 81,018	3,900	5.1%
5							
6	<u>Support & Benefits</u>						
7	FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	4,925	5,248	6,052	6,351	298	4.9%
8	Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			386	405	20	5.1%
9	Earned Paid Leave	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
10	Health & Retirement Benefits	3,765	3,886	4,266	4,293	27	0.6%
11	Subtotal:	\$ 9,690	\$ 10,634	\$ 12,704	\$ 13,049	345	2.7%
12							
13	<u>Operating Expenses</u>						
14	Training	750	750	750	750	0	0.0%
15	Misc. Expense	3,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	-1,000	-40.0%
16	Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance	750	500	500	1,500	1,000	200.0%
17	Safety and PPE	750	750	750	600	-150	-20.0%
18	Subtotal:	\$ 5,250	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,350	-150	-3.3%
19							
20	<u>Utilities Expense</u>						
21	Telephone	650	650	850	720	-130	-15.3%
22	Subtotal:	\$ 650	\$ 650	\$ 850	\$ 720	-130	-15.3%
23							
24	<u>Recycling & Disposal Expenses</u>						
25	Single Stream Contract	33,000	37,000	18,000	18,500	500	2.8%
26	General Disposal	1,500	1,500	2,500	2,500	0	0.0%
27	Curbside Pickup Contract	67,500	68,000	78,075	79,850	1,775	2.3%
28	Trash Disposal	24,000	28,500	23,200	23,900	700	3.0%
29	Hazardous Waste	1,500	1,500	1,000	900	-100	-10.0%
30	Subtotal:	\$127,500	\$136,500	\$122,775	\$125,650	2,875	2.3%
31							
32	Solid Waste & Recycling Budget:	\$206,472	\$219,379	\$217,946	\$224,787	6,840	3.1%

Note: The Department is estimated to receive revenue in the amount of \$100,500. The net cost to taxpayers for this department is \$124,287.

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM FY2025/2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET REQUEST
RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES**

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
	<u>Personnel</u>						
1	Recreation & Community Services Director	39468	52000	70589	74116	3527	5.0%
2	Allowance for Merit Wage Increase	789	1040	1411	1482	71	5.1%
3	Art Camp Staff				13250	13250	
4	Subtotal:	\$ 40,257	\$ 53,040	\$ 72,000	\$ 88,848	\$ 16,848	23.4%
5							
6	<u>Support & Benefits</u>						
7	Health/Retirement		33709	34656	37315	2659	7.7%
8	Earned Paid Leave	1000	0	0	400	400	0.0%
9	FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	3080	4058	5508	6797	1289	23.4%
10	Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			360	444	84	23.4%
11	Subtotal:	\$ 4,080	\$ 37,767	\$ 40,524	\$ 44,956	\$ 4,432	10.9%
12							
13	<u>Operating Expenses</u>						
14	Misc. Expense	1000	1000	1000	1500	500	50.0%
15	Telephone		240	240	240	0	0.0%
16	Postage	250	100	100	0	-100	-100.0%
17	Food Service Expense	3300	3500	3000	3000	0	0.0%
18	Recreation Website		3000	3000	3100	100	3.3%
19	Recreation Facilities	12000	9000	9000	7500	-1500	-16.7%
20	Operating Expenses	\$16,550	\$16,840	\$16,340	\$15,340	-\$1,000	-6.1%
21							
22	<u>Athletic Program</u>						
23	Program Expenses	8500	8500	6500	6000	-500	-7.7%
24	Athletic Program Expense	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,500	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,000	\$ (500)	-7.7%
25							
26	<u>Activities Program</u>						
27	Activities	3000	3000	15000	1000	-14000	-93.3%
28	Art Camp				1200	1200	
29	Activities Expense	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$15,000	\$2,200	-\$12,800	-85.3%
30							
31	<u>Age-Friendly Initiative</u>						
32	Programs	2300	2000	1000	1000	0	0.0%
33	Events			2000	1000	-1000	-50.0%
34	Postage, Printing, Advertising	620	470	250	500	250	100.0%
35	Supplies	380	380	250	1000	750	300.0%
36	Subtotal:	\$ 3,300	\$ 2,850	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ -	0.0%
37							
38	Recreation Budget:	\$ 75,687	\$ 121,997	\$ 153,864	\$ 160,844	\$ 6,980	4.5%

Note: The Recreation Department is budgeted to receive \$33,090 in revenue. The net cost of the department to taxpayers is \$127,754.

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM FY2025/2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET REQUEST
PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & CODE ENFORCEMENT**

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
	<u>Personnel</u>						
1	Planner (30%)	24,500	26,425	23,735	24,922	1,187	5.0%
2	Code Enforcement Officer	56,169	62,400	66,275	70,980	4,705	7.1%
3	Allowancee for Merit Wage Increase (2%)	1,613	1,777	1,325	1,918	593	44.8%
4	Subtotal:	\$ 82,283	\$ 90,602	\$ 91,335	\$ 97,820	6,485	7.1%
5							
6	<u>Support & Benefits</u>						
7	FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	6,295	6,931	6,987	7,483	496	7.1%
8	Health, & Retirement Benefits	42,193	43,233	42,185	42,945	760	1.8%
9	Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			457	489	32	7.1%
10	Subtotal:	\$ 48,488	\$ 50,164	\$ 49,629	\$ 50,917	1,289	2.6%
11							
12	<u>Operating Expenses</u>						
13	Telephone	720	500	500	360	-140	-28.0%
14	Print/Publications				500	500	
15	Training	1,500	2,500	2,500	2,000	-500	-20.0%
16	Enforcement	250	250	250	0	-250	-100.0%
17	Miscellaneous	1,250	1,250	1,000	500	-500	-50.0%
18	Mileage	1,500	1,500	1,500	2,000	500	33.3%
19	Postage	500	500	500	250	-250	-50.0%
20	Subtotal:	\$ 5,720	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,250	\$ 5,610	-640	-10.2%
21							
22	<u>Planning Expenses</u>						
23	Comprehensive Plan	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
24	Planning/Appeals	500	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
25	Subtotal:	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	0	0.0%
25	Total Planning Budget	\$ 137,990	\$ 150,266	\$ 150,214	\$ 157,347	\$ 7,134	4.7%

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM FY2025/2026 MUNICIPAL BUDGET REQUEST

CONTINGENCY & ORGANIZATION REQUESTS

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
Contingency Budget:							
1	Contingency	10,000	15,000	0	0	0	0.0%
2							
3	Contingency Budget:	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	0	0.0%
4							
5							
6	<u>Organization Requests</u>						
7							
8	Spectrum Generations	1,500	1,650	1,733	1,820	87	5.0%
9	The Lifelight Foundation	723	762	762	762	0	0.0%
10	Waldo Community Action Partners		1,000				
11	Tedford Housing				1,200	1,200	
12	Kennebec Behavioral Health			100	100	0	0.0%
13	Historical Society - Merrymeeting Hall						
14	Maine Public			100	0	-100	-100.0%
15	Big Brothers Big Sister				250	250	
16	New Hope for Women				280	280	
17	Sweetser				500	500	
18							
19	Organization Requests Budget:	\$ 2,223	\$ 3,412	\$ 2,695	\$ 4,912	\$2,217	82.3%

CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS

		FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Request	Inc/Dcr	Inc/Dcr
<u>CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS</u>							
1	Town Hall & Town Office	25,000	90,000	40,000	20,000	-20,000	-50.0%
2	Cemetery Maintenance	3,000	15,000	15,000	20,000	5,000	33.3%
3	Solid Waste & Recycling	44,500	15,000	5,000	10,000	5,000	100.0%
4	Public Works Reserve	26,000	440,000	487,000	512,000	25,000	5.1%
5	Capital Improvements	3,500	7,500	7,500	9,500	2,000	26.7%
6	Fire Reserve	26,000	67,000	85,000	72,000	-13,000	-15.3%
7	Recreation Reserve	4,000	10,000	3,000	2,000	-1,000	-33.3%
8	Riverfront-Yellow Building	500					
9	Waterfront		2,000	3,000	0	-3,000	-100.0%
10	Electronic Equipment Reserve Fund		3,500	4,500	4,500	0	0.0%
11	Town Facilities Maintenance Budget:	\$132,500	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$650,000	0	0.0%

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM
TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**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 11, 2025, 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.

ORDINANCES

ARTICLE 2: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Change References From “Marijuana” to “Cannabis,” to Update Definitions to Reflect Changes in State Statute, and to Enact Performance Standards for Cannabis Establishments” be enacted?

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

ARTICLE 3: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Revise Various Provisions Relating to Subdivisions” be enacted?

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

ARTICLE 4: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Revise Various Provisions of Article 5 (Land Use Districts)” be enacted?

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

ARTICLE 5: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Revise Select Board Permitting/Licensing Process” be enacted?

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

ARTICLE 6: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Revise Road Standards” be enacted?

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

ARTICLE 7: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Enact Provisions Relating to Waste and Nuisance Yards” be enacted?

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

ARTICLE 8: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Make Housekeeping Edits to Address Typographical/Grammatical Errors, Formatting Changes, and to Update Administrative Provisions” be enacted?

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

ARTICLE 9: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Revise Automobile Service Station Use-Specific Performance Standards” be enacted?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board agreed to not give a recommendation on this article.

ARTICLE 10: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Solid Waste Management Ordinance” be enacted?

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

ARTICLE 11: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend Animal Control Ordinance for the Town of Bowdoinham” be enacted?

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

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT & FUND BALANCE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to: 1) authorize the Select Board to negotiate and enter a contract with Maine Solar Solutions for the purchase and installation of a grid tied solar electric system at 57 Post Road, and 2) appropriate the sum of \$100,000 from the UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE for said project?

Explanation: The Town would own and operate our own solar array to be located on the Fire Station roof. The energy produced by the system is anticipated to cover 50% of the Town's energy use and will be directly credited to the Town's accounts. The system is warranted for 25 years with a 9 year payback. Over 25 years the Town will save an estimated \$4,451 annually for a total overall saving of \$111,288. Additionally, this system could qualify for a \$30,000 Federal Tax Credit Program.

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board voted to not give a recommendation on this article and Finance Advisory Committee recommend this article to pass, 5-0.

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$650,000, as itemized below, for the CAPITAL RESERVE Budget?

Capital Improvements:	\$9,500
Town Hall & Town Office:	\$20,000
Cemetery Maintenance:	\$20,000
Solid Waste & Recycling:	\$10,000
Public Works Reserve:	\$512,000
Fire Reserve:	\$72,000
Recreation Reserve:	\$2,000
Electronic Equipment Reserve	\$4,500
Total	\$650,000

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

EXPENSE BUDGET ARTICLES

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$824,696 for the ADMINISTRATION Budget?

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

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$49,500 for the GENERAL SERVICES Budget?

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

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$702,762 for the DEBT SERVICES Budget?

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

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$413,690 for the FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT Budget?

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

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$104,850 for the TOWN FACILITIES MAINTENANCE Budget?

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

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$38,877 for the ANIMAL CONTROL AND HARBOR MASTER Budget?

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

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$919,096 for the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Budget?

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

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$224,787 for the SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING DEPARTMENT Budget?

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

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$160,844 for the RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES Budget?

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

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$157,347 for the PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND CODE ENFORCEMENT Budget?

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

OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION REQUESTS

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$1,820 for Spectrum Generations?

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

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$762 for The Life Flight Foundation?

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

ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$100 for Kennebec Behavioral Health?

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

ARTICLE 27: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$1,200 for Tedford Housing?

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

ARTICLE 28: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$250 for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bath-Brunswick?

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

ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$280 for New Hope for Women?

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

ARTICLE 30: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$500 for Sweetser?

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

REVENUE BUDGET ARTICLE

ARTICLE 31: Shall the Town vote appropriate the sum of \$1,186,828 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 (5-0) recommend this article to pass.

BUSINESS ARTICLES

Select Board recommends the Business Articles #33-#48 to pass, 5-0.

ARTICLE 32: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to conduct winter maintenance on a 0.19-mile section of Pratt Road (formally Dingley Road) that was previously discontinued?

Explanation: At March 13, 1978 Annual Town Meeting, Article 46 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); a public easement remains. The approximately 0.19-mile section of (now) Pratt Road that is located north of Map R03, Lot 52.

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board recommends this article ought not to pass, 5-0.

ARTICLE 33: Shall the Town vote to fix the third day of November 2025 and the first day of May 2026 when all 2025 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 7.50% per annum on all taxes unpaid after said date(s)?

ARTICLE 34: Shall the Town vote to establish the interest rate of 3.50% 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 35: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept tax payments prior to the commitment of taxes?

ARTICLE 36: 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, 2025, who pay the total amount of 2026 taxes by monthly payments from September 2025 to June 30, 2026, 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 37: Shall the Town vote to authorize the payment of any overdrafts that may occur in the Town's 2025/2026 budget to be paid out of the undesigned fund balance?

ARTICLE 38: 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 39: 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 FY25-26, but which are not expended in FY25-26, to related reserve accounts?

ARTICLE 40: 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 41: 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 42: 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 43: 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?

ARTICLE 44: 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 45: 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.

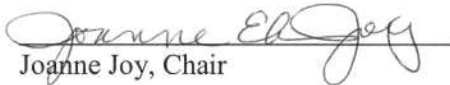
ARTICLE 46: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to accept and expend Community Development Block Grant Funds and other federal, state or private grants on behalf of the Town?

ARTICLE 47: 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?

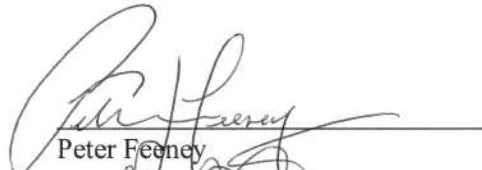
ARTICLE 48: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to close any road or roads or portions thereof for winter maintenance and to annul, alter, or modify such decisions, pursuant to 23 M.R.S. §2953, and that such orders made by the Select Board shall be a final determination?

Given unto our hands the 29th day of April 2025.

Select Board
Town of Bowdoinham


Joanne Joy, Chair



Mark Favreau, Vice-Chair


Peter Feeney


Allen Acker

Jason Hodde

Witness to All:


Nicole Briand, Town Manager



Bowdoinham



2024-2025



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