



TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM 2026 ANNUAL REPORT

BUDGET AND WARRANT ARTICLES
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

THE TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM

Town Meeting

June 10, 2026 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

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4 North Street, Hallowell, Maine

Cover : Pastel Painting 'Edgar & Bill' by Eileen Roberts

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Dedication



This year's annual report is dedicated to **George Christopher**, a distinguished and humble farmer whose life's work has had a lasting impact on the Town of Bowdoinham.

For decades, George Christopher has been a steward of the land and a champion of agriculture, once managing a busy and diverse farming operation while actively encouraging and mentoring the next generation of farmers. As a respected elder in the community, he has gracefully eased into a slower pace of life, at his Bowdoinham farm and continued his service to Bowdoinham on the Finance Advisory Committee. Over the years George has served on several town committees and boards, such as Age-Friendly, Select Board, Comprehensive Planning, Solid Waste, and Community Development Advisory. Our town is stronger and richer for his many contributions.

Often described as a "walking encyclopedia of Bowdoinham," George's deep knowledge of the town reflects his lifelong engagement and quiet leadership. Through years of devoted public service, he has remained closely connected to the people, history, and evolving needs of the community. His sincere love for Bowdoinham, its land, its residents, and its future guides everything he does.

George's passion for agriculture and his commitment to preserving farming as a viable way of life for generations to come inspired the creation of the local incubator farm program, through which he leased his land to organic farmers. This forward looking legacy has helped cultivate opportunity, sustainability, and resilience in Bowdoinham's agricultural community.

With gratitude and admiration, we honor George Christopher for his vision, humility, and enduring dedication to the land and to the Town of Bowdoinham.

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 2026-2027

Independence Day	Fri	07/03/2026	Christmas Day	Fri	12/25/2026
Labor Day	Mon	09/07/2026	New Year's Day	Fri	01/01/2027
Indigenous Peoples' Day	Mon	10/12/2026	MLK, Jr. Day	Mon	01/18/2027
Veterans Day	Wed	11/11/2026	President's Day	Mon	02/15/2027
Thanksgiving	Thurs	11/26/2026	Patriot's Day	Mon	04/19/2027
Day After Thanksgiving	Fri	11/27/2026	Memorial Day	Mon	05/31/2027
Christmas Eve	Thur	12/24/2026	Juneteenth (Celebrated)	Fri	06/18/2027

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

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

Deputy Treasurer/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

Community Services & Recreation

Contact: Jason Lamoreau

Email: recreation@bowdoinham.com

age-friendly@bowdoinham.com

Phone: 207-666-3101

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 is my pleasure to present this annual report on behalf of the Town of Bowdoinham. We have continued to make progress and complete key projects thanks to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and engaged residents. I am grateful for the continued support of this community.

Roads

In 2025, the Town completed the following road and paving projects:

- Surface paving on Section 1 of Carding Machine Road
- Shim and surface paving on Dinsmore Cross Road
- Town Office parking lot and sidewalk improvements
- Rebuilding approximately 1,600 feet of Dingley Road

Speed limit signs were installed at the Dinsmore Cross Road intersection on Carding Machine Road in response to community concerns about traffic speed.

At this year's Town Meeting, voters will be asked to approve \$350,000 for the Public Works Reserve. This funding would support the rebuilding of Back Hill Road and Spring Street.

Town Hall

After nearly a full year of construction, this phase of the Bowdoinham Town Hall restoration is complete, and the results speak for themselves. The restored Hall now features a beautiful new floor, freshly painted walls and ceilings, energy-efficient windows, modern heat pumps, updated electrical wiring and lighting, and a new accessibility ramp. The building was celebrated at a community Open House on November 14th, where residents came together to mark this milestone. The project was made possible through the contributions of more than twenty local contractors and partners, from foundation work and roofing to electrical, flooring, and door restoration.

John C. Coombs Building Improvements

This year, the Town replaced the exterior stairs to the second floor, installed new flooring in two offices and the lobby, and completed cleanout and repairs in the furnace room. A new front entry door was installed, and emergency lighting was added at the Library's new entrance.

Additional improvements included repairing the handicap access button at the Town Office and addressing water and drainage issues along the back of the building.

Parks and Waterfront

Significant work was completed at the Town's waterfront! The new park was officially named the Bowdoinham Riverfront Park, saw major infrastructure improvements including utility installation, landscaping, and base and final paving of the access road and parking areas. Interpretive and wayfinding signage was installed at both parks and along the Cathance Meadow Trails with funding from the Community Outdoor Recreation

Town Manager con't ...

Assistance Recovery (CORA) Grant. A new shade structure was installed at Maily Waterfront Park through a grant from the University of Maine's Age-Friendly program. A solar-powered electronic scoreboard was approved for Middle Field, funded entirely through community donations, with the goal of completion for the 2026 baseball season. The Town also approved a Story Walk along the Cathance River trail which will be completed in 2026.

Public Works

The Public Works Department welcomed a new team member, Oliver Terilli, in August. The Town purchased a new Ventrac 452N machine with attachments to replace the aging 1997 sidewalk equipment, improving the Town's capacity for winter sidewalk maintenance, field upkeep, and trail maintenance. The Town also replaced the Public Works boiler, repaired the roof; the insulation project is expected to be completed in 2026.

Solid Waste & Recycling

The Town has applied for a Transfer Facility License from Maine Department of Environmental Protection, which would allow us to take "bulky waste day" materials all year. Also, a new forklift was purchased to replace the 1982 unit.

Fire and Emergency Services

The Town contracted with Maine Solar Solutions for a solar array on the Fire Station roof, which will be operational in 2026, supporting future energy savings for the community. The Board approved an expenditure of \$114,170 on new SCBA air packs for the Fire Department. Using an EMS Sustainability Grant and a Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation Grant, the Town also purchased a first response vehicle, LUCAS device and LifePak cardiac monitor. The new fire truck that was approved by voters in June 2024 has been completed and delivered to Bowdoinham Fire Department in early 2026.

If you have any questions or ideas 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, and I would like to thank all the Town's volunteers for your dedication to making your community a better place.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Briand
Town Manager



Animal Control Cliff Daigle

A few friendly reminders:

- All dogs 6 months and older must be licensed in the State of Maine and have a current Rabies Certificate.
- To obtain a yearly State of Maine Dog License bring a valid rabies certificate and if applicable spay/neuter certificate to the Town office before January 31st. After January 31st there will be a late fee assessed on all registrations.
- All dogs kept outside must be provided with proper shelter. Shelter needs to be waterproof with 4 sides and a roof.
- If chained, the dog's chain must be at least five times the size of the dog.

Programs in Operation during 2025:

- 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
- Train 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

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 agent. 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's 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.

In addition to the annual Assessing Agent services, RJD Appraisal is in the process of a town-wide revaluation of all properties. Current sales data from Bowdoinham properties will be used to establish these new assessments. These values will represent 100% market value for all properties. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact the Town Office to set an appointment to meet with one of the assessors.

Cemetery Sexton Frank Connors

Greetings, good citizens of Bowdoinham

Another year has passed, and I assure you that I believe our town's Cemeteries are receiving good and proper care. I will remind you that Bowdoinham has some 60 Cemeteries (plus or minus) and a wonderful nucleus of residents, led by a devoted and active Cemetery Advisory Committee, works hard each season to support and protect what we all should see as a unique and precious resource.

Last year, we supervised some 24 burials in Bowdoinham (18 cremations and 6 casketed), and I am pleased to inform you that more than 400 veteran's graves, in 38 cemeteries, were marked with flags before Memorial Day. I want you to know that we continue to maintain an alphabetized list of local veterans, and if you know of a veteran buried in our town NOT being covered with a flag of recognition, contact me or the town office, and I will fix it.

This past year, your Sexton, and the advisory committee, with the help of a VERY dedicated public works department, added signs locating eight more rural cemeteries, continued restoration in several others, and continued to complete projects making all these cemeteries easier to access. If you would like to become a Cemetery Keeper or a laborer in one of our clean-up sessions, just call me with your questions, offers or comments.

I will close this report by reminding all that it might be time for the town to consider developing a new cemetery, (or expand one or several existing cemeteries.) As our town grows and the years pass, this is a need that will not go away.

Thank you again for the privilege of serving our town,

Frank Connors



Code Enforcement Officer Jason Lorrain

The powers and duties of a Local Code Officer (CEO) and a Local Plumbing Inspector (LPI) are regulated by state law and local ordinances. The CEO is responsible for processing all applications or referring them to the appropriate entity and collecting any fees due. Next, the CEO is responsible for reviewing permits for building, land use, internal plumbing, wastewater disposal systems (septic), Shoreland Zoning, as well as Floodplain Management. Inspections are a big part of the CEO’s role to ensure compliance with local ordinances. In addition, the CEO handles complaints, and violations by investigating them to determine if there is a violation. If it is determined to be a violation, the Code Office will always attempt to work with the property owner for compliance before issuing a Notice of Violation.

The CEO is the Planning Staff contact for Planning Board applications 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. Furthermore, the CEO is also the E911 Addressing Officer and property owners must contact the Code Office with any new address requests or questions.

In 2025, the CEO issued a total of fifty-five building permits, accounting for a total of sixteen new single-family dwellings and accessory dwelling units. The LPI has also issued sixty-two plumbing and sub-surface wastewater permits.

Notably, the Planning Board approved a subdivision at 9 & 15 Conifer Way, which is on the corner of Main Street and Pond Road. The Planning Board approved fourteen dwelling units split between two structures, eight dwelling units in one structure and six in the other. Lastly, these rental dwelling units are a great addition to the housing needs in the Town of Bowdoinham.

LD 1829 was approved on June 20, 2025, by the Governor. This is an act to build housing for Maine families and attract workers to Maine businesses by amending the laws governing housing density. A few key points below:

- At least three dwelling units must be allowed on any residential lot statewide.
- ADUs must be allowed on nonconforming lots if the project does not worsen existing issues.
 - Municipalities cannot require owner-occupancy of either the primary unit or the ADU.
 - Fire sprinklers may not be required in buildings with 1–2 units, including ADUs.
- Projects with four units or fewer cannot be required to go before the Planning Board—administrative review only.
- Updated Subdivision Definition: A subdivision now includes the creation of five or more dwelling units within 5 years, increased from the previous threshold of three units.

If you are planning a new project on your property and 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
2025-2026	\$10,538	62	55
2024-2025	\$11,085	42	42
2023-2024	\$10,744	40	46
2022-2023	\$10,568	45	52
2021-2022	\$14,478	54	56

Fire & Rescue

Arthur Frizzle, Fire Chief



I am pleased to submit the 2025 annual report for Bowdoinham Fire & Rescue.

Captain Darin Sylvester grew up in a family very much committed to public safety, a commitment that Darin carried throughout his youth and continued in his adult life. He was a member of Brunswick Fire Department's call department throughout the 1980's before finally moving to Bowdoinham. He joined Bowdoinham and shared his wealth of knowledge and experience and remained committed to helping us grow and kept us moving forward. In 2025, after 46 years in the fire service, Darin decided to take a small step back. He can be found during the milder months working at fairs and events throughout Maine as Sylvester's Fish and Chips and during the cooler months he is finally able to relax in the north woods snowmobiling or whatever it is that Mainers do when they are "upta camp." Darin still lurks in the shadows and is readily available to jump back on the engine if needed but for now, thank you for all your contributions to Bowdoinham Fire & Rescue and the community we serve, enjoy the semi-retired life.

Much of this past year we have focused on our EMS service and what we can do to make it stronger. We currently have ambulance services contracted through Lisbon Emergency. Those that are unaware, Lisbon Emergency is not a municipal ambulance service operated by the Town of Lisbon. Instead, Lisbon Emergency is a private, non-profit service with its own board of directors. They provide ambulance services through contracts that include Lisbon, Bowdoin, and Bowdoinham. We are very pleased with the professionalism and level of care that Lisbon Emergency provides, however given our geographic location, the one downside is response times. Although there are some factors that skew the times a bit, the average response time is 20 minutes from the time of the E911 call to the ambulance arriving on scene with Bowdoinham responders typically arriving within the first 5-10 minutes. We determined that one of the most effective steps we can take is to upgrade our Maine EMS license for Bowdoinham Fire & Rescue to the Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) level. We currently have three members that are already AEMT's but since Bowdoinham's license is only to the Emergency Medical technician (EMT) level they are unable to use some of the skills and patient interventions that their training allows. There are several steps and some additional pieces of equipment that are required by Maine EMS to proceed with this upgrade. Grant funding through several sources and a significant donation from the Bowdoinham Fire & Rescue Association have allowed us to begin acquiring all the components we need to make this happen. This is still a work in progress, but we are working hard to get all of the pieces in place to be functioning at the higher license level as soon as possible.

The new fire engine that was authorized at the 2024 town meeting has arrived. The initial build was delayed briefly due to the availability of the pump but was completed in November. From there the truck was shipped north to Pennsylvania for lettering and upfitting custom items such as the light tower. It then shipped a little farther north to Massachusetts for final inspection before arriving here in Bowdoinham.

Bowdoinham Fire & Rescue ran a total of 430 calls for service in 2025 which is down slightly from last year. Typically, EMS will cover between 20 and 35 calls a month, but April 2025 saw just 8 requests for service and May jumped to just 9. This was excellent for the health and safety of the community, and it gave the volunteers a brief respite, but it is certainly an anomaly that is not expected to repeat itself. The fire department was chasing brush fires starting in March and continuing through the end of November which unfortunately is becoming much less of an anomaly. One fire had us returning on a daily basis for a week to continue extinguishing hot spots that had burnt down into the root system before eventually popping up somewhere else. Ultimately the total area that burned was minimal, but it underscores the importance of fire safety and completely extinguishing your campfires.

Fire & Rescue con't...

Building / Chimney – 25

Vehicle Fire – 9

Brush / Woods Fire – 21

EMS Assist – 17

Vehicle Crash with Injuries – 16

Vehicle Crash no Injuries – 22

Trees / Wires Down – 23

Alarm (smoke/fire/CO etc.) – 21

Fuel Spill / Leak / Other Hazard Conditions – 14

Miscellaneous (public assist / traffic safety detail / citizen complaint etc.) – 22

Unpermitted Burning – 2

Water Rescue – 1

The above calls include mutual aid assistance to Bowdoin, Richmond, Lisbon, Litchfield, Topsham and includes calls that were cancelled after being dispatched.

Congratulations to Deputy Chief Balboni and Firefighter Pattleson on completing their Pro Board certification for Firefighter I/II. This involves over 250 hours of classroom and practical time covering a 6-month period and is a huge commitment. This commitment is one of the many reasons that finding quality volunteers is always a challenge. Fortunately, through the efforts of some of our existing members that went above and beyond, combined with a few well placed “We need you” posters, we were extremely fortunate to add six new members last year. The new members hit the ground running in both fire and EMS. We are always looking for the right individual to join our team. We meet every Monday night, stop by the station, and check us out.

Once again, thank you to the Bowdoinham Community for your continued support and thank you to the dedicated members of the department that are always there to answer the call.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Arthur Frizzle



Harbor Master Derek Saxon

Bowdoinham's rivers and the unique Merrymeeting Bay offer many opportunities for recreation both on and off the water. When heading out, make safety your top priority. Stay aware of weather conditions, follow safe boating practices, and be courteous to others. Always know the rules, remain attentive to your surroundings, and let someone know your plans and when you expect to return.

Bowdoinham's waterfront parks offer both a motorboat launch at the Maily Waterfront Park as well as a paddle boat launch at the new Riverfront Park across the street.

Mooring a boat within Bowdoinham waters requires prior approval and a written permit from the Harbor Master. Mooring permits must be renewed annually by May 1, and failure to renew results in forfeiture of the mooring.

All permitted moorings must display the assigned identification number in legible numerals at least three inches high. Mooring assignments are nontransferable. Moorings are required to undergo inspection every two years.

Watercrafts are not permitted to remain on moorings between November 1 and May 1. After November 1, vessels may be removed at the owner's expense unless prior arrangements have been approved by the Harbor Master.

Copies of the Harbor and Waterfront Rules and Regulations, along with applications for new or renewed mooring permits, are available at the Town Office and on the Town's website under Documents at www.bowdoinham.com/harbor-master.

Regards,
Derek Saxon, Harbor Master



Planning & Development

Yvette Meunier

2025 was a full and fast moving year in Planning & Development, with momentum building across nearly every ongoing project and committee. With major planning efforts underway, multiple grant funded initiatives progressing at once, and a very active calendar of community events, this year brought both big milestones and steady progress on long term goals. The department continued supporting residents, committees, and project partners while helping guide thoughtful growth and maintain Bowdoinham's strong sense of community.

The Planning Board continued its oversight of development proposals throughout the year, reviewing applications ranging from reconstruction of nonconforming structures to land use determinations and several Tier I site plan reviews. While application volume fluctuated month to month, staff worked closely with applicants to navigate a Land Use Ordinance that permits many uses across districts but requires careful review to protect nearby properties and natural resources. In addition to regular development review, the year included substantial work on reorganizing key elements of the Land Use Ordinance, particularly Site Plan Review, Shoreland Zoning, and Performance Standards. The Board focused on consolidating information, reducing redundancy, and clarifying requirements so that the ordinance better supports residents, businesses, and future development proposals.

The Comprehensive Planning Committee shifted quickly into implementation mode following the 2024 adoption of the Town's updated Comprehensive Plan. Their major focus in 2025 was launching the Town's first Open Space Plan, identified as a top community priority. Throughout the year, the committee reviewed examples from other Maine towns, developed an Open Space Vision Statement, and approved the Town's first formal definition of open space. Public engagement was also a key priority. The CPC hosted an Open House in November to introduce newcomers to the committee's work, share information about the Open Space Plan, and encourage new volunteers to get involved.

The Tree Subcommittee continued its work toward a town wide Tree Care Plan, drafting guiding language, collecting community feedback, and hosting educational events such as an Emerald Ash Borer presentation. While no formal action was taken the subcommittee is laying important groundwork for long term stewardship of Bowdoinham's tree canopy.

Community and Economic Development work—funded through the Town's two Tax Increment Finance Districts—expanded significantly in 2025. The TIF districts continued to shelter tax revenue in ways that increase state subsidies, reduce county taxes, and support major community improvements at little or no cost to local taxpayers. Work included visible progress on the Bowdoinham Riverfront Park improvements, including plantings, grading, accessible pathways, and utility preparation.

Volunteers played a meaningful role by helping maintain new landscaping.

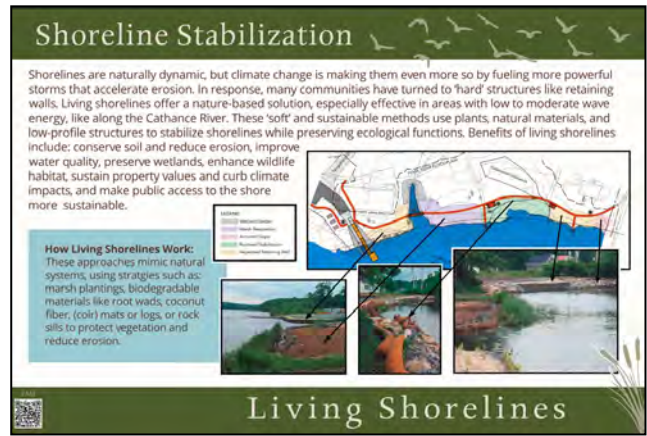
Transportation and trail development also saw meaningful progress. Through coordination with MaineDOT, the Town advanced work on the Main Street sidewalk extension, continued planning on the Village Partnership Initiative, and submitted a no match grant application for planning



Planning & Development, con't..

and engineering of the Merrymeeting Trail. Late in the year, the Town received a \$62,821 Maine Trails Program grant for substantial accessibility upgrades to the Cathance Meadow Trail system.

The Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) supported a number of projects in 2025. A major milestone was the development and installation of the CORA Interpretive & Wayfinding Signage Project, which added new interpretive signs at Mailyly, the new Waterfront Park, and along the Cathance Meadow Trail system.



Work on the yellow building advanced through a FEMA BRIC grant, allowing the Town to complete a detailed structural and environmental assessment. Public meetings in late 2025 and early 2026 began exploring concept designs that could make the building suitable for economic, recreational, or community uses. CDAC also collaborated with the USDA's design assistance program to begin shaping a community supported design for a new pavilion at the waterfront. CDAC organized multiple stakeholder sessions including targeted charettes with farmers, artisans, and nonprofit groups to understand the specific needs of each user group.

The year began with the Ice & Smelt Festival, which included ice skating, sledding, storytelling, a soup fundraiser, and multiple community led events across town. Although smelts were scarce again this year, vendor surveys showed that several organizations reported noticeably higher participation than the prior year, with returning vendors noting anywhere from 40–75 visitors and many praising the community turnout despite weather challenges.

The Summer Concert Series ran from July through August with a wide array of musical talent and weekly community dinners hosted by local nonprofits. Across the season, benefit dinners served between 60–120 meals per event depending on the weather, with several nonprofit hosts reporting strong engagement and one group noting a complete food sell out.

Open Farm & Studio Day celebrated Bowdoinham's creative and agricultural identity, with venues across town hosting demonstrations, tours, sales, and interactive activities. Survey responses indicated that 5 of 8 participating venues met their engagement goals, one exceeded expectations, and visitor counts ranged from 20–30 at most locations, with the Food Pantry drawing an exceptionally high 220 visitors and raising approximately \$2,700 from its BBQ fundraiser.

This year's Tour de Bowdoinham charity bike ride saw significant participation, raising funds for the Bowdoinham Food Pantry and collecting hundreds of pounds of food donations. The ride attracted 120 participants, up from 92 the previous year and raised a total of \$4,655 for the Food Pantry, while also generating 411.2 pounds of donated food and supporting several local businesses that offered discounts, snacks, and raffle prizes.



Planning & Development, con't..

Celebrate Bowdoinham returned with strong attendance and a full day of activities, including vendor markets, local performances, children's events, the annual parade, and fireworks. The event hosted 27 vendor exhibits, saw strong community involvement, and fireworks sponsorships increased by \$1,020 over 2024, helping offset rising display costs.

The year concluded with the Holiday Festival, which featured artisan markets, wreath making workshops, tree lighting, caroling, and family friendly activities across multiple venues. Eleven participating venues offered events throughout the first week of December, and several locations, including the Town Hall and Cathance River Gallery, reported increased attendance, with the Guild of Artisans noting record-breaking turnout on their opening night.



This was a year of impressive scope and collaboration, with major capital projects underway, new planning efforts launched, grant funded initiatives advancing, and strong community participation across events.

Respectfully submitted,
Yvette Meunier
Director of Planning & Development

Public Works Tobey Frizzle, Foreman

Last summer, Public Works completed a three-week access road project to the Randall Temple Cemetery, improving access for ongoing maintenance. They also constructed an access road to the North Baseball Field, making it more accessible for users. This provides a convenient handicap drop-off location, allows coaches to unload game equipment, and supports field maintenance.

The project included the installation of two new entrance culverts, expansion of the gravel parking area, and drainage improvements for Pertel Field. In addition, they completed the awning project at Maily Park, which will help restore some shade lost when a tree had to be removed.

Public Works also finished a drainage project around the fire station to help preserve the asphalt in the parking areas. Throughout the season, they were cutting roadside brush and will continue clearing town rights-of-way to prepare for future ditching and culvert replacement work.

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 and connect them 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 towns' recreation departments, SAD 75, AARP, Maine Health, 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, Funtown Splashtown, Aquaboggan, York's Wild Kingdom, Maine Celtics, Maine Mariners, Seaspray Kayaking and Paddleboarding 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:

- 1) www.BowdoinhamRec.com
- 2) Facebook page "Bowdoinham Recreation Dept."
- 3) "The Bowdoinham News" newsletters
- 4) Email: recreation@bowdoinham.com or call 207-666-3101
- 5) "The Bowdoinhammer" newsletter www.bowdoinhammer.com

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
- Free Lending: cross country skis/boots, ice skates, snowshoes, pickleball nets/paddles, tennis racquets, hockey sticks, helmets, golf clubs, ball gloves, cleats, basketballs and more available to borrow!

Summary of Programs/Activities of 2025-26

-Basketball

K-6 grade 81 children/15+ volunteers to coach, keep the book and run the clock. K - 2 is our "Little Dribblers" program with high school level players and coaches that focuses on drills/skills to prepare for team play.

Many 3-6 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/Quickball:

K-7 grades - 8 teams/97 children/17 volunteer coaches, volunteer ump's, field support, snack shack volunteers, and countless parent involvement.

We also hosted TWO Maine Cal Ripken District #4 Championship tournaments this year! 12U 60 and 10U.

Recreation & Community Services, con't..

Many players go on to play an extended season in the all-stars in our Cal Riken/Babe Ruth League. Teams include a combination of players from every town in our district.

-*Celebrate Bowdoinham Annual Recreation BBQ fundraiser* with outdoor games raised over \$1,100. New this year was the “Smoothie Bike,” donated by Maine Health which was hugely popular!

- *Cross Country Running*: Grades 1 – 6 with over 30 runners this year. Once again we hosted a meet at the Cathance Trails at Riverfront Park in the spring and fall sessions.

-*Lost Valley Ski & Snowboard Lessons* - 3-7 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 2025-26 was cold and snowy, a great one for outdoor activities. This winter saw amazing cold and ice for skating as well as great snow for sledding, skiing, and snowshoeing.

-*Summer Art & Nature Camp* Back again this year, in partnership with Merrymeeting Arts and Bowdoinham Community School we were able to offer four week-long sessions of Summer Art & Nature Camp with Ms. Katie Hudak and (new this year) Ms. Julia McLeod. 88 students participated in Grades K – 8.

-*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 Basketball*: Indoors in the Community School Gym winter

-*Adult Walking*: Outdoor walking trails year-round.

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

Repairs conducted Summer of 2025:

- Newly installed drainage at Pertel Field
- Drainage, culverts, and re-surfacing of the Recreation Ballfields parking lot on Ridge Road.
- New access road installed from parking lot to North Baseball Field
- New 1st base dugout constructed at Pertel Field
- New permanent chain-link homerun fence installed on North Baseball Field
- New net and poles on the Tennis Court
- New way-finding signage throughout Cathance Meadow Trails

Spring 2026 will include installation of solar-powered electronic scoreboard at Middle baseball field completely funded by donations and volunteers from the community!

Recreation & Community Services, con't..

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

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. Special thanks this year to the Dauphinee family for their efforts to fundraise and help beautify Middle Field. They spearheaded the fundraising efforts for our new Scoreboard!

Looking for Volunteers to Support Additional Programs:

Walking/Running Group for 2-5 grade/Instructors K-2 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

Greeting Bowdoinham residents,

In preparation for our transition from recycling center to transfer station, members of the Solid Waste and Recycling Department attended training provided by Maine Department of Environmental Protection and Maine Bureau of Labor. This training included OSHA 10- and 30-hour courses in General Industry Standards, Annual Report and Recordkeeping, Hazardous & Special Waste Handling, Transfer Station Operations, Forklift Operator Safety, Storage Area Maintenance & Compost Leachate Control, resulting in Transfer Station Operator Certifications.

In February 2025 we applied for an entrance permit and was granted approval in May of 2025 for the installation of a separate entrance for Solid Waste and Recycling, in February 2026 ground was broken, and work began on the new entrance.

In November we completed the application process and submitted application for Transfer Station License; this process takes up to 180 days for approval. With approval we will be able to do away with the semi-annual collection of bulky waste and freon collection and instead be able to take bulky waste daily.

Also, in early November we became a satellite drop-off location for the Bowdoinham Food Pantry. You can drop off shelf stable items during our open hours of operation. We look forward to supporting this program that has done so much for the community.

The Solid Waste Department wants to thank all who helped to make our operations go smoothly and to help reduce waste. Special thanks go to all who gave up their Saturday for Earth Day roadside clean up. The community is cleaner for your actions. Last but not least I would like to thank Cassie and Jacinta for their dedication to the program.

Residents can keep up to date by monitoring the Town's website and following us on our Facebook page, Town of Bowdoinham Solid Waste Department.



Solid Waste & Recycling con't...

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

Cardboard	76,950	pounds	Paint	425	gallons
Fluorescent tubes	416	bulbs	CFL	100	bulbs
HID	1	bulbs	Mercury Vapor	3	bulbs
Lithium-ion	398	each	Nicad	68	each
Lead Acid	77	each	CRT TVs	16	each
Flat Panel TVs	60	each	Mercury Therm.	2	each
PCB Ballast	36	each	Scrap Metal	77,360	pounds
Cell Phones	30	each	Laptops	30	each
Printers	21	each	CPUs	3	each

Town Clerk Tina Magno

The office continues its ongoing efforts to improve organization and efficiency throughout the year. Alongside our experienced veteran election workers, we were fortunate to welcome several new Election Clerks who provided invaluable support during this election season. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all Election Clerks for their dedication, knowledge, and willingness to assist during especially busy periods. Your efforts help ensure that elections are conducted smoothly and efficiently, and your contributions are deeply appreciated.

I would also like to extend a special thank-you to our Warden, Rachele Tome, whose patience, professionalism, and extensive knowledge of the community have contributed significantly to the success of each election year. Her continued dedication and support to both the Town and the office are instrumental. Rachele's calm demeanor, thoughtful approach, and forward-thinking mindset have helped strengthen our team and improve our election processes year after year.

Thank you to the Town staff for your continued collaboration and support. The successful administration of elections truly takes a collective effort, and your contributions are essential.

A heartfelt thank-you is extended to Public Works, including Tobey Frizzle, Bryan Benson, Hunter Magno, Bob Ridgell III, Oliver Terilli, and Thomas Egan, for their hard work with the setup and breakdown of election equipment. Your long hours, flexibility, and positive attitudes do not go unnoticed. The work you do for the Town is demanding and often unrecognized, and your continued willingness to assist is greatly appreciated.

The Town's dog licensing information through the new State of Maine online system is now operational, and our local records have been updated accordingly. Residents who have acquired a new dog or no longer own one are encouraged to contact the Town Office to ensure our records remain accurate. Please note that while dog registration is required by the State, the Town does not automatically receive updates from the online system, making resident communication essential.

Looking ahead to 2026, a primary goal of the office is to ensure that all customer records are as accurate and

Town Clerk, con't..

up to date as possible. As part of this effort, residents may be asked to provide information such as birthdates, phone numbers, or addresses to help prevent errors and address issues promptly. We remain committed to keeping the public informed regarding Town meetings, elections, and other important updates. Additionally, we will be working with the Cemetery Committee to implement a new system that ensures records are updated and forms are made available in a timely manner.

Please be reminded that Town updates and notices are shared through multiple channels, including the Town website, Facebook page, and are posted in the Town Office. Residents are encouraged to regularly review these sources for information on upcoming events and daily activities.

Once again, thank you to all who have shared kind words and support throughout the year. We remain dedicated to providing professional, efficient, and welcoming service to everyone who visits the Town Office. Thank you all again from the Town of Bowdoinham, we appreciate your feedback and look forward to making 2026 a banner year!

Sincerely,
Tina L. Magno

June Elections – 06/10/2025

Municipal Election

Article I –

YES	217
NO	93
Blanks	0

Article II –

YES	234
NO	71
BLANKS	0

Total Cast Votes – 310

June Town Meeting – 06/11/2025

48 Articles on the Agenda

132 Registered Voters in attendance

November Elections – 11/04/2025

Referendum Election – Question 1

YES	541
NO	984
BLANKS	4

Referendum Election – Question 2

YES	920
NO	600
BLANKS	9
AUXILIARY	1

Total Ballots Cast – 1529

Total UOCAVA Votes – 6

Total Votes Cast - 1535



The Town of Bowdoinham respectfully acknowledges the passing of **Sylvia Edmondson** on May 1, 2026. Mrs. Edmondson served the community with distinction as Town Clerk from 1987 to 1998.

Her contributions to the Town Office and to the residents of Bowdoinham remain deeply appreciated.

Vital Records

There were 19 Marriages within the Town Bowdoinham this year. Congratulations to all!

Party A	Party B	DATE
Shelby A Riley	Dwaine A Palmer Jr	2/3/2025
Hannah Lee Ecker	Christopher Michael Macisso	2/3/2025
Jessica Joyce LaFleur	Benjamin Tobias Zarembo	5/17/2025
Marion Rosemarie Wright	Zachary Martin Cote	5/23/2025
Diyali Goswami	Andrew Lloyd Thomas Bunn	5/23/2025
Juliana Joan Bonardi	Aaron John Kline	6/7/2025
Anita Louise Woofenden	Emmitt Joseph Enslin	6/28/2025
Claire Elizabeth Schaffer	Christian Malcolm Potts	8/9/2025
Maria Claire Chinnici	Dylan Chance Hooper Goetinck	8/23/2025
Alexandria Nicole Lewis	Grant Tyler Woodbrey	8/24/2025
Nicole Paige Wickstrom	Zachary Brandon Griffin	8/30/2025
Larissa Amy Decker	Logan James Hilton	9/6/2025
Danielle E Kriemelmeyer	Christian Conlon Rohde	9/6/2025
Lauren Morgan Garrard	Duncan Carter Alden	9/13/2025
Kylee Lynn Alexander	Calob Matthew Densmore	10/18/2025
Miriam Deborah Firth Coward	Scott William Pike	10/25/2025
Yue Ming Hong	Philip Allen Murphy	11/15/2025
Isabel Amundsen Singer	Louis Cortland Frumer	11/15/2025
Maia LaFarge Pinsky	Lincoln Beal Smith	11/18/2025

There were sadly 24 Deaths this year.

NAME	DOD	NAME	DOD
John Arthur Bamford	4/23/2025	Crystal Shirley Murray	2/2/2025
Bonnie L Broome	6/4/2025	Wilhelmine Anna Oakes	6/13/2025
Vyrell Leona Burton	2/4/2025	Samuel A Parker	6/1/2025
Nicholas Raine Disy	8/10/2025	Ernest Wayne Parks Jr	7/31/2025
John D Duran	5/4/2025	Jamie Robertson	11/18/2025
Cynthia Jean Evans	3/10/2025	Mark A Roye	1/14/2025
Blaine Francis Fortin	3/7/2025	Michael Gerald Ruoss	10/11/2025
Kaleb Anthony Halsey	1/15/2025	Grace Sherwood	7/17/2025
Ann Hartzler	7/8/2025	Joseph Robert Silver	6/12/2025
Sandra D Keefe	9/23/2025	Calvin W Temple	1/9/2025
Suzann Gray Lancaster	4/14/2025	Judith Anne Thibeault	10/21/2025
Maria Mugnier	7/25/2025	Douglas L Walters	2/20/2025

There were 27 Births within Bowdoinham this year.



Boards and Committees

Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham

Coleen Crowley
Debra Smith
Karen Mayo
Lois Smith
Mary Kelley
Maureen Booth, Chair
Willam Small
Laura Arnold
Pam Buffington
Contact: Jason Lamoreau
age-friendly@bowdoinham.com
Meets 2nd Monday at 1:30 pm

Board of Appeals

David Jones, Chair
Ed Friedman
Sylvia Hultman
Marc Babcock
Hope Libby
Contact: 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

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

Community Development Advisory Committee

Ian McConnell, Secretary
Laleah Parker
Martin Szydowski, Chair
Wayne Sanford
Finn Smith
Hope Libby
Contact: Yvette Meunier
planning@bowdoinham.com
Meets 1st Tuesday at 6:30 pm

Comprehensive Planning Committee

Allison Tanner
Mark Tanner
Jan Marks
Jason Lamoreau
Peggy Christian, Chair
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
Sarah Gardella
Contact: Arthur Frizzle
firechief@bowdoinham.com
Meetings to be announced

Finance Advisory Committee

David Engler, Chair
George Christopher
Marc Babcock, Alt
Nina Mendall
Stephen Smith, Vice Chair
Wayne Dorr
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
Shelley Hooper
Contact: Nicole Briand
townmanager@bowdoinham.com
Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Solid Waste Committee

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

Town Hall Committee

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

We want to thank the dedicated Bowdoinham Residents 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

At the end of 2025, Bowdoinham was named **AARP Maine Beacon Community of 2025**. This distinction, awarded on the recommendation of peer communities, recognizes the Town's sustained investment in creating a community that is safe, accessible, and welcoming for residents of all ages and abilities. While honored by this recognition, we remain mindful that continued progress depends on ongoing collaboration, volunteer engagement, and community commitment.

In Memoriam

In July 2025, Bowdoinham and the Age Friendly Committee experienced a significant loss with the passing of Ann Hartzler. Ann was a long-serving committee member whose insight, diligence, and leadership were instrumental in staffing monthly community luncheons, securing grant funding, and maintaining accountability to the Committee's goals. Her contributions have a lasting impact on the success of age-friendly initiatives, and her absence is deeply felt.

2025/2026 PRIORITIES AND PROGRESS

The Age Friendly Committee identified five priority areas to guide its work in 2025/2026.

1. Volunteer Engagement

Strengthening volunteer participation remains essential to the success of age-friendly efforts, particularly through membership on the Age Friendly Committee and as drivers for the Rides in Neighbors' Cars program. During the past year, four new members—Laura Arnold, Colleen Crowley, Pam Buffington and Bill Small—joined the Committee. In addition, two new volunteer drivers, Roe Torresi and Lea Barnes, stepped forward to support the ride program. The Committee extends its appreciation to all volunteers, whose service underpins all our programs and initiatives.

2. Bowdoinham Community Connections (BCC)

A second priority is the development of a sustainability plan for Bowdoinham Community Connections – a pilot designed to reduce barriers in accessing essential services. Sponsored by the Maine Cabinet on Aging and the UMaine Center on Aging, BCC is now in its second year of operation. The program provides one-on-one assistance to residents through help with benefit applications, technology use, community navigation, housing-related challenges, and overall quality-of-life improvements. A detailed account of BCC's accomplishments and future direction is provided in its own section in the Town's Annual report.

3. Aging-in-Place and Home Safety Initiatives

Supporting residents' ability to live safely and comfortably in their own homes is a central focus of the Committee's work. Research consistently demonstrates that familiar environments—home, neighborhood, and community—offer stability and support as individuals age and experience changing abilities. To advance this priority, the Committee is pursuing grant funding to train volunteers to conduct in-home assessments with homeowners using a standardized tool. These assessments will identify physical barriers, prioritize practical solutions, refer smaller projects to the Handy Brigade, and connect residents to appropriate contractors and resources for larger tasks. The proposal also includes discretionary funds for the Handy Brigade to purchase materials necessary for common repairs, such as grab bars, shelving, and lumber.

4. Digital Literacy and Inclusive Communication

As access to services and information increasingly depends on the internet, the Committee continues to address disparities in internet access, device availability, and digital skills. We are pursuing a dual approach: expanding digital literacy while maintaining non-digital communication methods for residents without reliable access. The BCC program has piloted the installation of Echo Dots in selected homes to support daily tasks through voice-activated technology. In addition, past collaborations with the Bowdoinham Public Library

Age Friendly Bowdoinham con't...

resulted in a series of digital skills classes and tutorials which remain accessible through the Library's website, along with devices available for instructional use. To ensure broad access to community information, the Committee also resumed publication of a printed monthly calendar, *Be Social*, distributed at the Town Office, Post Office, and soon-to-open general store. Residents may request mailed copies through the Town Office.

5. Age Friendly Website Redesign

The final priority for 2025/2026 is the redesign of the Age Friendly website. The current site is difficult to navigate and limited in its capacity to engage residents or collect feedback. The Committee is in discussion with Mt. Ararat High School about a collaborative project with students helping to develop a more accessible, interactive, and user-friendly website. This initiative offers an opportunity to strengthen intergenerational connections and promote civic engagement among young people.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

As we focused on these 5 priorities, we continued to work with partners and volunteers to offer support services and social activities to enrich the lives of residents.

Support Services

- ◇ *Bowdoinham Community Connections* offers one-on-one and group assistance to help residents overcome barriers to care and personal fulfillment.
- ◇ The *Handy Brigade* is available to do small repairs and maintenance jobs.
- ◇ Upon request, the fire department will deliver *sand buckets* during the winter.
- ◇ The *Medical Equipment Loan Program* provides wheelchairs, lift chairs, rollators, hospital beds, and other adaptive devices to residents on a short and long term basis. Donations of lightly used equipment (especially wheelchairs, rollators, and lift chairs) are needed to meet increasing demand.
- ◇ Now in its 15th year, *Rides in Neighbors' Cars* provide rides to medical appointments, grocery stores, and social activities to those who no longer drive, are without a car, or are unable to drive. In 2025, an average of 12 active volunteer drivers provided 588 rides which accounted for 14,867 miles and 984 volunteer hours.
- ◇ For the fourth year, we continued the practice of handing out winter safety kits to help residents during emergencies and power outages.

Social Activities

- ◇ Monthly luncheons are served on the second Thursday of every month at the Fire Station. Donations are welcomed.
- ◇ Weekly bridge and cribbage on Wednesdays and Thursdays respectively at the Fire Station.
- ◇ A newly formed *Needlecraft Gathering* is held the second and fourth Fridays each month at Merrymeeting Hall for individuals seeking company as they work on their projects.
- ◇ Last year *special classes* were held in *Basket Weaving*, *Flower Arrangements*, and *Making Needhams*.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Age Friendly Committee enters 2026 encouraged by recent recognition and grounded in the understanding that building an inclusive, age-friendly community is an ongoing process. Through volunteer service, strategic partnerships, and sustained community engagement, Bowdoinham continues to advance its commitment to supporting residents across the lifespan.



Bowdoinham's Community Connections

Bowdoinham Community Connections is a program of Age-Friendly Bowdoinham, supported by the University of Maine Center on Aging and the Governor's Cabinet on Aging.

Program Overview

Bowdoinham Community Connections (BCC) is a volunteer-driven initiative launched in September 2024 as part of Age-Friendly Bowdoinham and funded by the Maine Cabinet on Aging and UMaine Center on Aging. The program pairs trained community volunteers with residents who need help navigating life's challenges, whether related to health care, housing, food access, utilities, transportation, finances, or caregiver support.

BCC's model is built on one-on-one, relationship-based support that builds trust over time. Rather than replacing existing services, BCC acts as a connector, ensuring residents find and access the right resources for their specific situations. The program serves residents of all ages and economic backgrounds, grounded in the belief that aging well is a community effort.

The program is led by Community Connector, Sally Cluchey, a longtime Bowdoinham resident and State Representative, working alongside Maureen Booth (Age-Friendly Bowdoinham Advisory Committee Chair) and Jason Lamoreau (Community Services Coordinator).

2025 by the Numbers

Community members supported (documented minimum)	130+
Active core volunteers	11-12
Volunteer hours logged (low estimate)	1,000+
Drop-In Hours sessions held	40+
Community luncheons hosted at Bowdoinham Estates	3
Bulky waste events hosted	3
LIHEAP/LIAP applications assisted	4+
Medicare Savings Program enrollments assisted	20+
Bowdoinhammer newsletter subscribers (year-end)	650+
Partner organizations engaged	30+

Note: These figures represent documented minimums. Given the relationship-based nature of much of BCC's work, actual reach is likely higher.

Volunteer Highlights

BCC's volunteers are the backbone of everything the program accomplishes. In 2025, the team grew, adapted, and deepened its commitment to the community in ways that would be hard to overstate.

Community Connections con't...

Team Composition

BCC maintained a core volunteer team of 11 to 12 members throughout 2025, with professional backgrounds spanning nursing, occupational therapy, counseling, accounting, and college admissions advising. Team roles included:

- ◇ Nine volunteers providing direct one-on-one support to participants
- ◇ One volunteer dedicated to event coordination
- ◇ One communications contractor managing the Bowdoinhammer newsletter
- ◇ Supervisory support from the Age-Friendly Coordinator and Committee Chair

Training Milestones

Key training milestones in 2025 included:

- ◇ A November training led by a Sweetser medical director on working with individuals on the schizophrenia spectrum and those with personality disorders, attended by ten team members
- ◇ A December training on the Assisted Rides data and coordination platform, with two volunteers stepping up as platform administrators and lead trainers for the full team
- ◇ Ongoing process improvements following a candid August team meeting, resulting in a more structured model for one-on-one participant engagement, including written goals and shared agreements with participants

Volunteer Culture

One of BCC's greatest strengths is the responsiveness and commitment of its volunteers. When Community Connector, Sally Cluchey shared in a September team meeting that she was feeling overwhelmed, volunteers immediately stepped up to redistribute workload and take on new projects. That kind of culture is not something you can mandate, and it is what makes BCC work.

Community Partnerships

BCC's ability to help residents depends on a broad network of local, regional, and state partnerships. In 2025, BCC engaged with more than 30 organizations across a range of needs.

Local Partners

- ◇ Bowdoinham Food Pantry: BCC became the designated liaison for the pantry's home delivery program, coordinating food appropriateness and delivery logistics with participants ahead of time.
- ◇ Town of Bowdoinham (Office, Public Works): Coordinated Bulky Waste Day logistics and assisted residents in applying for General Assistance
- ◇ Rides in Neighbors' Cars (RidesINC): Arranged transportation for medical appointments, grocery shopping, and social events

Community Connections con't...

- ◇ Bowdoinham Library: connected isolated participants with library resources and social engagement opportunities
- ◇ Merrymeeting Arts Center and Merrymeeting Hall: promoted arts, cultural programming, and community events through the Bowdoinhammer newsletter

Regional and State Partners

- ◇ Sweetser: Coordinated specialized volunteer training and explored referral pathways for participants experiencing mental health challenges
- ◇ Midcoast CAP: Assisted with LIHEAP and LIAP application questions, referrals, and troubleshooting
- ◇ Maine Housing: Engaged to provide reassurance to Bowdoinham Estates residents about the long-term stability of their housing
- ◇ Central Maine Power: Worked with CMP's legislative liaison to help residents understand bills and manage winter energy costs
- ◇ Spectrum Generations: Explored a home repair partnership through Bowdoinham's monthly Age-Friendly meeting
- ◇ CA\$H Maine: Promoted and facilitated free tax preparation services for qualifying residents
- ◇ Legal Services for Maine Elders and Pine Tree Legal: Connected participants with free legal Assistance
- ◇ Harpswell Community Connections and Healthy Peninsula: Peer learning around volunteer coordination and the Assisted Rides data platform
- ◇ First Parish Church of Brunswick: Established a new referral pathway for gas and food card Assistance
- ◇ UMaine Center on Aging and Governor's Cabinet on Aging: Ongoing reporting and collaboration as part of the statewide Community Connector pilot

Challenges and Barriers

Part of BCC's value is its ability to identify and document systemic gaps that make life harder for residents. Where possible, BCC has raised these issues with state officials.

State Program Delays and Errors

LIHEAP and LIAP processing delays through Midcoast CAP persisted throughout much of 2025, with some applications from Fall 2024 unprocessed well into the new year. Participants were denied assistance on technical grounds despite submitting materials correctly and on time. BCC escalated several cases to Maine Housing and state officials.

Community Connections con't...

DHHS created confusion for SNAP and Medicare Savings Program applicants by requiring documentation beyond what is legally required, and by issuing confirmation letters containing conflicting information. BCC escalated these concerns to the Office of Family Independence.

Mental Health Complexity

Several participants live with serious mental health conditions that significantly complicate daily life and, at times, the boundaries of what a volunteer program can appropriately manage. BCC responded by seeking specialized training from Sweetser, developing clearer participant agreements with written goals, and referring participants to professional care where possible.

Program Capacity

With a strictly volunteer operation and one part-time paid coordinator, BCC's capacity is finite. The team made deliberate decisions in 2025 to add more structure to participant onboarding and distribute workload more evenly, ensuring the program can sustain itself over the long term without burning out its volunteers.

Looking Ahead to 2026

BCC enters 2026 with a strong foundation and clear priorities for growth:

- ◇ Full launch of the Assisted Rides platform as BCC's primary data collection and volunteer coordination tool, with rollout planned for January
- ◇ Promote, install and support Echo Dots in homes that allow speech activated devices assist in tasks of daily living such as: turning on lights, reminders to take medications, plan music, get weather forecasts and much more.
- ◇ Formalizing BCC's role as liaison for the Bowdoinham Food Pantry's home delivery program
Developing welcome packets for new residents so people know BCC exists from the moment they arrive in town
- ◇ Expanding the Handy Brigade home repair program in partnership with regional organizations
- ◇ Continued growth of the Bowdoinhammer newsletter as a primary channel for community outreach, resource sharing, and social connection
- ◇ Securing long-term funding to sustain and grow the program beyond the current pilot period

Above all, BCC remains committed to one core principle: no Bowdoinham resident should face a difficult challenge alone. The work ahead is grounded in the same thing that made Year 1 a success, neighbors showing up for neighbors.

For more information: outreach@bowdoinham.com

Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals reviews variance requests and citizen appeals related to permit decisions issued by Code Enforcement or the Planning Board that they feel were in error. Its members hold a public hearing, consider testimony by interested parties, examine information provided, and apply the Town Ordinances to determine whether an error occurred.

In September, the Board convened to deliberate a variance application for 20 Main Street.

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 benefits not only all the rate payers, but all citizens through lower water costs for fire protections. In 2025 we have found two major leaks that have lowered pumping costs.

Here is a helpful tip on how to detect a leak in your toilet:

Remove the cover on the toilet tank and carefully set it aside so it cannot be accidentally knocked over and cracked. Remove any "in-tank" bowl cleaners that colors 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 set overnight 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
P.O Box 86
Bowdoinham, ME 04008
Tel: (207) 737-4721
Fax: (207) 737-2427
Email: bowdoinhamwater@ne.twcbc.com

Cemetery Advisory Committee

The Cemetery Advisory Committee has two central obligations for Bowdoinham: 1) to visit as many of the town's 60+ cemeteries yearly and report the condition of each to the Select Board with recommendations for needed upkeep; and 2) help create and maintain a database of cemeteries, their graves and maps and historical references.

For the past several years, since Covid, our concentration has been mainly on the first responsibility but building on the research and work by Linda Williams from several years ago, we have built out the database with many columns of information such as keepers, location by road and GPS, 8 key points of upkeep importance (such as broken stones, absence of signs and fence, overhanging trees or encroaching shrubs) and immediacy of need.

As you will note, 2025 continued these processes with the following activities:

- Four cemeteries hosted intense cleaning attention—the 2025 focal cemetery Raymond-Allen Plot located on Centers Point Road which took two weekends. Large trees had displaced several stones and were removed by our Public Works Department with stone cleaners and brush removing the next weekend, Mustard Cemetery (Post Road), Whitmore Cemetery (River Road), and Beech Hill Cemetery (Centers Point Road). All of the cemeteries have keepers.
- Albert Stehle continued work on monument and stone repairs at Village Burying Ground and Ridge Cemetery.
- Elaine Diaz and Linda Temple have recruited several more keepers. Eleven cemeteries still need someone's loving watchful eye. Board members Patricia and William Oh will now cover the East Bowdoinham cemetery oversight.
- On behalf of the Town of Bowdoinham, we threw a heartfelt Thank you Cider and Doughnuts party for the keepers and volunteers of these town properties. Four special plaques were awarded for extraordinary dedication to Frank Connors, Albert Stehle, Elaine Diaz, and Marilyn Hinkley (who created the invaluable cemetery maps found on the Bowdoinham Historical Society website).

Coming up in 2026: Bowdoinham has been selected as the site of a four day intense training and education program presented by the Maine Old Cemetery Association. This includes special training on cemetery care and upkeep as well as how-to demonstrations on mending a variety of different types and styles of cemetery stones. Volunteers are welcome and wanted! Please let us know if you are interested in attending .

Respectfully submitted,
Nina J. Mendall, Chair



Community Development Advisory Committee

CDAC completed two major projects in 2025: The mural that is now on the bath house in Maily Waterfront Park and the way-finding signs in the Bowdoinham Riverfront Park.

The Merrymeeting Arts Center collaborated with CDAC in a call for artists and artist selection resulting in selecting Erica Sedler to paint the mural. Our Public Works department mounted the aluminum panels on the South-West face of the bath house.

Banana Banners received the contract to design and produce the way-finding signs for the Bowdoinham Riverfront Park. All signs have been installed. CDAC coordinated this effort and participated in reviewing the entire package prior to production.

The committee participated in developing the Village Partnership Initiative by selecting an engineering consultant, Gorrill-Palmer, to analyze and propose alternatives for improving vehicle and pedestrian traffic safety in the village area. Implementation projects are expected to start taking place in 2026.

The committee has begun public meetings to identify and prioritize requirements of the design of the pavilion for Bowdoinham Riverfront Park. Final recommendations expected in 2026.

Two new members joined CDAC in 2025, Marty Szydowski and Finn Smith.

Submitted by Jean de Bellefeuille- Chair



Comprehensive Planning Committee

The Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC) conducted an online and in-person survey of town residents in the late months of 2024 to determine what aspect of the Comprehensive Plan we should focus on next. Protecting Open Space in the Rural Agriculture District was ranked the highest with other related options, such as creating an Agricultural Conservation Plan and an Open Space Plan also received high rankings. Since protecting open space, the highest ranking, cannot happen without a town approved plan, the CPC has begun work on creating an Open Space Plan. This is very much in line with residents strongly liking the rural nature of the town, which is what we hear most when asking what they like about living in Bowdoinham.

You then helped us to focus on our work by ‘placing your eggs in a basket’ at Celebrate Bowdoinham, voting for what open space is important to you. The results of this activity are as follows:



Recreation and Trails	196	Agriculture	78
Rivers and Streams	132	Hunting and Fishing	45
Playgrounds and Parks	111	Scenic Vistas	45
Habitat	106	Cultural and Historical	42
Forests	93		

With these rankings in mind, we have been reviewing Open Space Plans from other communities in Maine to learn what a good Open Space Plan should include but also so we do not waste valuable time attempting to “reinvent the wheel.” The members of the committee: Jason Lamoreau, Vice Chair, Robert Schott, William Stanton, Jan Marks, Allison Tanner, and Mike Roland have begun this review. We also want to express gratitude to members who recently left the committee: David Asmussen, past chair, and Laura Arnold, for beginning this process with us.

Bowdoinham has also received \$55,000 in grant funding from the state’s Community Resilience Partnership Program Community Action Grant. This grant will allow us to hire a consultant who has experience developing Open Space Plans for other municipalities in Maine.

The CPC also sponsored a three-part seminar titled “Seeing the Forest and the Trees” in January and February of 2025. The sessions were titled: 1) Trees in Your Backyard 2) Trees in Your Community 3) Trees in Your Forest. A total of 40 people attended, many for multiple sessions. Out of that seminar came the idea of creating a Tree Plan for the municipal trees in Bowdoinham. A Tree Plan Sub-committee was created holding the first meeting on May 7, 2025. Members Jan Marks, Chair, Peggy Christian, Vice-chair, Hank Olgiby, Secretary, Susan Drucker, Nina Mendall, Frank Drummond, Mark Tanner, and Mike Roland have been working since that time to develop a framework for the care of our municipal trees.

In addition, during September the sub-committee sponsored an information session about the highly invasive Emerald Ash Borer. Colleen Teerling, Insect & Disease Lab, Maine Forest Service described how the EBA was introduced, how it is killing ash trees and steps that the town and individual property owners can take to protect ash trees from this destructive pest.

There will be many ways for you to let us know your thoughts as we develop the Open Space Plan. We will hold community forums and conduct surveys. We will be at Celebrate Bowdoinham, or you could speak to one of our members. You are also invited to attend a meeting in person or through Zoom. We also would happily welcome new members. CPC meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 6PM.

Submitted By Peggy Christian, 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. 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 six members 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, capital project priorities and the Town's 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 and the Town Manager meet with Department Heads, review budget requests, 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

2025 was a relatively quiet year for the Bowdoinham Planning Board. The volunteer board reviewed two applications and discussed and drafted a number of changes to the Land Use Ordinance. We were helped by Town Planner, Yvette Meunier and CEO, Jason Lorraine.

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who has been involved with the Planning Board this year for their collaborative spirit. In addition, all of us on the Planning Board would like to express our extra thanks for the hard work of Jason Hodde, who spent many hours this fall going through and editing the Land Use Ordinance in the effort to improve the clarity and workability of the document.

In 2025 the Planning Board reviewed and approved the following applications:

- A set-back determination of a non-conforming building by Griffin and Ingrid Leschefske at 415 Bay Rd.

In addition, in 2025 the Planning Board reviewed the following applications that were not approved within the calendar year:

- Shoreland Zoning Application by James Hammond for a seawall reconstruction at 431 Browns Point Rd.

Also, in 2025 the Planning Board drafted, heard comments on, and approved proposed changes to the Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance including:

- New language related to Select Board licensing criteria
- A new definition and standards for a Waste and Nuisance Yard
- Use specific standards for Automotive Service Stations
- Administrative edits related to spelling, grammar and clarity

These proposed changes were approved by voters at the town meeting in June, 2025

Sincerely,
Nathan Drummond
Chairman of the Bowdoinham Planning Board

Select Board

Bowdoinham's Select Board members are Allen Acker, Mark Favreau, Jason Hodde, Shelley Hooper, and Joanne Joy. Select Board members serve three-year terms that start immediately following the November election. Peter Feeney served on the Select Board until November 2025, when he stepped down (thank you, Pete) and Shelley Hooper was elected through a write-in process. Allen Acker was elected for a second three-year term.

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, as well as volunteer members of the town's committees. Thanks to all of the community members that help Bowdoinham thrive!

Below are a few highlights from 2025.

Town Hall

The renovation of Town Hall is at the top of the list, not because the Select Board had extensive or controversial discussions, instead because it is such an important element of the Town of Bowdoinham. Although the Select Board weighed in on some decisions, the planning, management, oversight, myriad big and little decisions, and day-to-day efforts largely relied on the Town Hall Committee Members and the Town Manager, while many others added their time and talents to ensure our Town Hall is again a community asset. The results are amazing! The interior colors and lighting, the small kitchen area, and the storage options for the new tables and chairs are great improvements. The Town Hall again hosted a Farmers Market in November and the Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans Show & Sale as part of the Holiday Festival in December. It is now available to rent for your events and celebrations.

Bowdoinham Riverfront Park

There have been many, many steps over recent years that have led to the Bowdoinham Riverfront Park, including a number of decisions by the Select Board with a lot of input from committees, boards, and community members; with lots of oversight and project management from the Town Manager, other town staff, and public works.

The rendering of the vision for the park can be seen at the trail head of the Cathance Meadows Trail. The view from the trail head towards the river was originally a ramshackle prior public works buildings, weeds, scrub brush, gravel, mud, and various rubble from prior uses. That area has been transformed! The shoreline has been stabilized and an ADA accessible non-motorized boat put-in installed. This past year has seen the addition of a tarred road, parking, and sidewalks. There are trails through the transformed terrain that host native trees and plants, lighting, and more. Attractive wayfaring signs provide directions and distances on the trail, Information about the history and nature of the river, identification of plants and wildlife, as well as letting all know about a couple of regulatory issues. Although there is more to do over time including the addition of a pavilion and perhaps courts or a playground, the park will be open in the summer of 2026. Access has been restricted to allow for the grass, trees, and other plantings to become established.

The Riverfront Park is the partner of the Maily Waterfront Park, with the two now making up the Bowdoinham Waterfront Parks.

Select Board con't...

Road Improvements

Roads have occupied much of the Select Board's time in 2025. Road maintenance and construction are very expensive, relies on the capacity and staffing of our public works department, as well as engaging reliable contractors. Funding for all roads maintenance is approved annually at Town Meeting.

There are currently explicit state laws that define the responsibilities of municipalities regarding all town public roads. In the past year, the Select Board has learned a lot about the state level criteria for and processes to determine whether a road should be maintained, or not; whether a road should be/can be discontinued or possibly abandoned (both terms used in the statute), with or without right-of-way. Over the past 50 or 60 years a number of town roads have been closed, some formally, some not, sometimes conforming to the state statute, sometimes long before the current statute existed. All of these various elements inform Select Board discussions, decisions, and recommendations for Town Meeting Warrant items.

Dingley and Pratt Roads received attention at many of the 2025 Select Board meetings.

At this point, the section of Dingley Road that was not maintained by the town for over 30 years has been returned to conditions for a municipal road in Bowdoinham.

Pratt Road was considered to be discontinued many years ago. However, the Town continued to maintain the road, which is a legal no-no. The Select Board decided to put this issue on the 2025 Town Meeting Warrant, as a vote to allow maintenance is legally required. It was not approved by the voters. The Select Board, however, was soon reminded that people lived on that stretch of road and had not had an opportunity to share their concerns regarding this issue.

- First, thank you to the community members who have property on Pratt Road for doing some research, framing their issues, diving into the municipal road's statutes, and bringing their voices to the Select Board. With this input, the Select Board did place a question on the ballot in November regarding Pratt Road winter maintenance for the 2025-26 winter.
- Second, the Select Board has determined that outreach to all owners of properties impacted by a potential change of a road's status or maintenance will be conducted prior to additional discussions and decisions about those roads.

Just a quick reminder, decisions for funding for town roads are determined broadly and sometimes specifically by the votes at Town Meeting in June for a July 1 through June 30 fiscal year. Since the vote in June had determined not to fund maintenance on Pratt Road, it took another vote by community voters to change that vote by ballot in November. There is an additional Warrant Articles regarding Pratt Road at the 2026 Town Meeting.

Moving forward the Select Board will identify and prioritize other municipal roads that are not clearly discontinued or abandoned, need to be maintained or not. Those decisions will be on the agendas throughout 2026; watch for possible 2027 Warrant Articles. Do not forget, all of these actions have financial/budget impacts.

Select Board con't...

Participation at Town Meeting Matters

This seems like a good point to remind everyone that the Town Warrant is available both in hard copy and electronically . This document informs community voters regarding issues that require a vote each year. Additional information is available that provides background for many of the Warrant Articles before each Town Meeting. Hard copies are available, so feel free to arrive early. Remind others to stay informed and attend Town Meeting if possible.

Your Participation

Select Board meetings are available on both Zoom and Town Hall Streams platforms. Public comment and participation at all regular meetings and public hearings is welcome. Agendas and most materials are available on the bowdoinham.com website.

Respectfully submitted by Joanne Joy, Chair

Solid Waste Committee

As the Solid Waste Committee (SWC) accomplished the major goals given to us by the Select Board last year this year has been a bit calmer. We do have a couple of things in process though:

First, the transfer station license application has been submitted to the State. This was an incredible accomplishment by the Solid Waste Director, with input from the Town Manager. The application itself was over 100 pages, which represents a great deal of research and data gathering. Also to improve the chances of approval with little, or no, need for further action before approval the Solid Waste Director held multiple meetings with the State to ensure our application met their needs. Of course, being the State, the application process moves slowly, the State has over 6 months to review and act, so we do not expect to hear from them until May.

The other task the Solid Waste Committee is undertaking is a review of glass recycling. As many of you remember Bowdoinham used to accept glass for recycling, however in 2020 the Material Recovery Facility we used closed (pandemic related). Based on the weight of glass (glass weighs about 10 times as much as a similar volume of plastic or aluminum) trucking heavy material more than 200 miles is not economically feasible. And while many of these circumstances have not changed in the past 6 years (e.g., the Material Recovery Facility has not reopened nor has another one opened within a reasonable distance) it is always good to revisit these decisions. It is time to both review the past model as well as evaluate other possible models. Stay tuned on this one.

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

Town Hall Committee

What a difference a year makes! The Town Hall Committee is excited to report that the repairs and improvements to the Town Hall are nearly complete and that this special landmark is once again ready to serve as a vital part of our community.

The intensive restoration, started in 2024, continued throughout 2025. After the new foundation was completed, the transformation continued; floors were removed and replaced with new sills, beams, and floorboards. Throughout the year, crews have worked tirelessly to bring the building back to life. Today, the Town Hall features:

- A beautiful new floor
- Freshly painted walls and ceilings
- Energy-efficient windows
- New siding and insulation
- Heat pumps
- Updated electrical wiring and lighting
- An efficient kitchenette
- A new accessibility ramp

On November 14, 2025, the Town of Bowdoinham proudly hosted an Open House to unveil the newly restored Historical Town Hall. More than 100 residents came through the doors to view the elegant transformation of this beloved building. The evening was filled with excitement and reminiscing about many past events and the wonderful memories created. The Town Hall has already hosted several events, including the Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans Holiday Show and Sale.

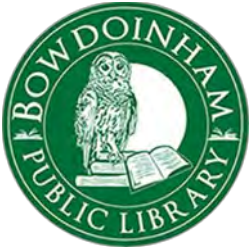
The Committee extends thanks to those who have been supportive of this restoration project including Albert Stehle for the removal of the brick chimney; Mark Favreau for his on-site expertise, T&H Excavation for pre-lift and post-lift preparations of the site, the Public Works Department, the many contractors who provided various repairs and improvements, Town Office staff, Lisa-Marie Curtis and Jason Lamoreau, Doug Tourtelotte for caring about this beloved historical treasure and his determination to preserve it, and Town Manager, Nicole Briand for her perseverance, creativity and leadership in making this restoration possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachelle Tome
Committee member



Bowdoinham Public Library



To the Residents of Bowdoinham,

On behalf of the Trustees and staff of the Bowdoinham Public Library, I extend our heartfelt gratitude for the town's ongoing support and engagement this past year. Your visits, volunteerism, donations, and weekly participation in library programs have kept our library thriving, proof that a strong community makes for a strong library.

Despite the challenges brought by federal budget reductions that have affected libraries across the nation, our own fundraising efforts, and our town's continued investment in public resources has ensured that our library remains a vibrant and welcoming space for all. Your advocacy and consistent use of our services affirm the essential role the library plays in daily life—from early literacy and digital learning to lifelong education and community collaboration.

More than simply two rooms filled with books, the Bowdoinham Public Library serves as a social and cultural center for our town. It is where neighbors meet, ideas are shared, and creativity flourishes. This year, a new monthly book group began meeting to complement the long-running two others. The summer reading program inspired 130 young readers to read all summer long. We hosted speakers and taught digital literacy skills—all designed to foster connection and learning for every age group.

Our new porch, ramp and parking lot were completed last summer with a joyful ribbon cutting ceremony on June 28, 2025. The Remote Work in Libraries grant of \$100,000 provided a lasting improvement to the Coombs Municipal Building and improved accessibility for all who come to use this building.

Our used bookstore, Merryreading Books, housed in the lower level of Merrymeeting Hall, has provided an opportunity for those donating good quality used books, and those shopping for bargains. It is the perfect venue for Recycling-minded Bowdoinhammers and provides a necessary revenue stream for the library. We welcome new volunteers who might enjoy working in a bookstore. Please stop on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to preserving the library's welcoming atmosphere and expanding opportunities for connection, exploration, and growth. Thank you for helping to make the Bowdoinham Public Library a cornerstone of our community life. Together, we ensure that our library continues to flourish, no matter the challenges ahead.

With appreciation,

Kate Cutko
Library Director
Bowdoinham Public Library

Stephanie Hanner
Board President
Bowdoinham Public Library



Bowdoinham Community School

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



To the Bowdoinham Community:

I have heard from many of you over the last year. Our school, built by the town in 1955, clearly remains a source of great pride. This community prioritizes the wellbeing of its children: the next generation of creators, citizens, doers and helpers. You turn out to support us as volunteers, advocates, caregivers, and ultimately as voters and taxpayers. We notice and appreciate how you help hold up our school, year after year. Thank you.

Last Fall our school district embarked on a multi-year process to review and address the needs of its facilities. The bones of three of the five elementary schools - in Harpswell, Bowdoinham, and at Williams-Cone in Topsham - are seventy years old. Significant maintenance on those buildings has been deferred for a long time. We have reached the point where a decision to reinvest in those school facilities, or permanently close them, must be made. Proposals for renovations and/or consolidation of schools were shared at public meetings, and community members had multiple opportunities to ask questions and share their perspectives. The pride each of those towns has in their neighborhood elementary school was overwhelming. As of this writing, the only remaining options involve Bowdoinham Community School remaining open and being renovated to meet our current and future needs. This is exciting for many, and for me personally. I have been privileged to live my dream of leading a rural, public community school for the last twelve years. My team and I are committed to making our school an institution in which this community can be proud for many years to come.

Our world-class teachers and staff continue to work hard, smart, and together for every one of our students. Our academic achievement remains well above the state and district averages, but there is so much more happening every day in our wonderful school. A particular highlight: our Civil Rights Team, after realizing that our playground was not fully accessible to all of our students with mobility and visual impairments, carried out a plan this Spring to change that. First, they petitioned our custodian to move the adapted swing to a spot amongst the regular swings, instead of segregated in its own spot. Next, they got to work creating and delivering a presentation for the school board's Facilities Committee asking for high-visibility paint to be added to the edges of the play structure, and a smooth path suitable for a wheelchair or wagon installed to connect the blacktop to all areas of the playground. At this time they still have several steps to complete for their vision of a fully-accessible playground to be realized. But if you visit the school this summer and see these changes, you can feel the same pride I do in our children - their empathy, intelligence and leadership - and in the school adults who foster and help grow their best qualities every day.

Thank you, fellow Bowdoinhammer, 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
Email: lajoiec@link75.org

MSAD #75

Dear Bowdoinham Community Members,

The 2025-2026 school year has seen a continued focus on the future of MSAD #75, starting this past summer with the adoption of a 5-year Strategic Plan after a thorough, community-inclusive process. The district's administration and staff kicked off the school year with professional goals and processes tailored to begin bringing our Strategic Plan to life, and we all look forward to the continued shared focus that this plan has brought.

At the same time, Facilities Director Shawn Johansen and our Facilities Committee, in close collaboration with Superintendent Heidi O'Leary, have been working with an outside consulting firm on assessing all the District's buildings and schools, developing our first Facilities Master Plan. The goal has been to identify major building maintenance and replacement needs over a 10-20 year timeline, so the District can make appropriate financial and logistical plans and decisions — while making sure those projects are aligned with the priorities of the District's communities.

The Board of Directors were presented with a draft of the Facilities Master Plan in February, following several public forums and surveys, as well as demographic fact-finding. While it came as no surprise that each community in MSAD #75 feels strong attachment to their elementary schools and prioritize their value first and foremost, confirming this via a data-driven approach reinforces the District's efforts to maintain and care for these schools moving forward. This will mean difficult decisions regarding the costs of building maintenance and replacement, but the importance of our community schools to the communities is crystal-clear. Information about this plan can be found on the District's website.

One other point of pride for the 2025-2026 school year is the implementation of a “bell to bell” ban on cellphones in all our schools — a marked change for Mt. Ararat High School where phones had previously been allowed for certain parts of the day. While there were some concerns about implementation, particularly from students, Principal Chris Hoffman led a thoughtful and inclusive process to determine recommendations to the Board regarding cell phone policies, and then implemented detailed procedures, in partnership with Principal Megan Hayes Teague at Mt. Ararat Middle School. While there are certainly students who grumble at the change, all reports have indicated the project is a success, with staff and students reporting increased social engagement and classroom focus, with some students even admitting that it is “not that bad.” With state action about cellphones in schools looking ever more likely, MSAD #75 is in a good position and ahead of the pack.

For several years now, 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 2024-2025 school year: 69.0% of MSAD #75 students tested at or above expectations in English Language Arts, compared to 63.8% statewide; 61.4% of MSAD #75 students tested at or above expectations in Mathematics, compared to 49.4% statewide. Both district benchmarks represent increases over last year's figures — the results of ongoing efforts in all our schools.

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 9th. 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

MSAD #75 con't ...

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 — particularly ahead of the major considerations that will come along with the completion of the Facilities Master Plan.

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 Vice Chair of the School Board, Chair of the Finance and Policy Committees, and serves on the Superintendent Evaluation Committee. Hutson will also be Board Chair for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year.

We thank you all for the opportunity to serve our 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

Ryan Larsen, Chair, 2025-2026

<https://www.link75.org/>

District information Pertaining to Bowdoinham, FY2026

Operating Budget (including Adult Education): \$58,051,701

Bowdoinham's FY2026 Local Share of the overall District Budget: \$4,664,442.45

Percentage of total Local Share: 13.44%

Bowdoinham's Student Enrollment, as of October 1, 2025: 388*

Kindergarten – 5th grade at Bowdoinham Community School: 194

Grades 6-8 at Mt. Ararat Middle School: 93

Grades 9-12 at Mt. Ararat High School: 113

Percentage of total District Enrollment (2291): 16.97%

**Some Bowdoinham resident students attend different district elementary schools, and vice versa, leading to this total not matching the sum of the school figures.*





Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

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

Winter and Spring 2026

Dear Friends:

It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve as your governor for the past seven years. We have faced many challenges together, from confronting a global pandemic, to healing from a horrific tragedy in Lewiston, to rebuilding from unprecedented storms that damaged homes and businesses across the state. But we have done so with the strength, courage, and kindness that is at the essence of Maine people, the same community spirit that will sustain us in the years to come.

Our towns and cities are the essence of community and the foundation of our democracy. In my last year as governor, I will push to continue fully funding revenue sharing and public schools so those costs are not added to the property tax bills. We will continue to make record investments in housing to bring down the cost of home ownership. We will continue to deliver tax relief to working people and lift the burden of student debt off the shoulders of younger people to encourage them to stay here, pay taxes here and invest in our state.

I fundamentally believe that our strongest asset is you – the people of Maine – which is why my Administration’s approach has always been, and will always be, to make this state the best place in the nation to live, work, and raise a family.

With gratitude,

Janet T. Mills
Governor



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www.maine.gov

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSION
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

Dear Friends,

It is an honor to serve the people of Maine, and I welcome this opportunity to update you on the work that has taken place in the Senate over the past year. My staff and I have addressed numerous issues affecting our state, and I would like to share some of the progress that we have made.

Since my *Social Security Fairness Act* was signed into law in January 2025, the law has been fully implemented and restored earned retirement benefits to 2.8 million Americans. More than 25,000 Mainers have seen their monthly benefits increase and have been issued more than \$184.5 million in retroactive payments. I am proud that this legislation has improved the lives of many retired firefighters, teachers, police officers, and other public employees and their spouses.

I was honored to become the first Maine Senator in nearly a century to lead the Appropriations Committee. Since I took this role last January, Congress enacted full-year appropriations bills before December for the first time since 2018. These bipartisan bills included full-year funding for Military Construction and the Department of Veterans Affairs, the US Department of Agriculture, and the Food and Drug Administration. At my request, these bills included nearly \$35 million in Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) for local projects across Maine that will improve fire stations and emergency services, update municipal buildings, and support upgraded facilities at the Maine National Guard and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard (PNSY) in Kittery. This funding builds on the nearly \$1.1 billion in CDS I have secured since 2021 for worthy projects that benefit local communities and nonprofits across our state's 16 counties. As Chair, I remain committed to working to better ensure that federal spending and investments produce real results for the people of Maine.

I have also led other important legislative efforts this year that address problems many Mainers face. This includes bills that expand federal efforts to combat Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses and improve access to early testing for Alzheimer's disease. Provisions I authored to strengthen prevention, treatment, and recovery services for those struggling with substance use disorders and mental illness were included in the *SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act* that was recently signed into law. An amendment I authored in this year's *National Defense Authorization Act* will increase apprenticeship opportunities at public shipyards like PNSY. That bill also includes more than \$400 million to support critical infrastructure improvements at PNSY and a well-deserved 3.8 percent pay raise for all our nation's service members.

In addition to advancing legislation, I worked to ensure that federal commitments to Maine were maintained and, when necessary, restored. I secured a seasonal employee exemption for Acadia National Park from the Administration's federal hiring freeze and from closure during the recent government shutdown. I protected local programs like Maine Sea Grant and global initiatives like the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) from harmful funding cuts. I led the effort to resume enrollment at Maine Job Corps centers and fought for full funding for Maine's public schools this school year. I preserved funding for the University of Maine System and secured the restoration of funding to the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point and the Penobscot Nation. I protected low-income Mainers' access to key programs like LIHEAP and SNAP. Although I voted against the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* due to my opposition to Medicaid cuts, I helped secure \$50 billion to support rural health providers through the legislation's Rural Health Transformation Program. Maine has been awarded \$190 million in the first year of this five-year grant program.

Throughout my Senate service, I have never missed a roll-call vote and have cast more than 9,850 consecutive votes—reflecting the Maine work ethic I bring to Washington. My continued ranking as most bipartisan Senator from the Lugar Center and Georgetown University is a testament to Maine's tradition of working with cooperation and respect.

My highest priority as a Senator is to ensure that the State of 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

COMMITTEES:
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RANKING MEMBER, STRATEGIC FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE
ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
RANKING MEMBER, NATIONAL PARKS
SUBCOMMITTEE
INTELLIGENCE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Dear Friends,

With each year we have a new opportunity to recognize our shared achievements and offer up our time and energy to support one another when challenges arise. I am grateful to the towns across Maine for their dedication to their communities, their residents, and our state. Working together has always been our strength, and the past year proved that once again we are stronger when we work together.

However, it is difficult to recall a year more challenging than the one we just experienced – a year that required a steady focus on our founding principles and shared values. For these reasons, I spent hours on the Senate Floor reminding my colleagues—and many of you back home—about the vision our founders demonstrated when they laid the blueprint for the American experiment. A cornerstone in their understanding was a duty to civic engagement and community. I often refer to Maine as a big town with long roads, and in my travels throughout our state, I am reassured by the grassroots participation in our civic process and the neighborly feel that makes Maine unique.

My legislative priorities remain largely the same: supporting Maine veterans, small businesses, and our heritage industries like agriculture, forest products and the marine economy. Additionally, I am grateful to have an exceptional team across Maine ready to assist you with issues involving the federal government. Whether you are facing challenges related to veterans' services, Social Security, the IRS, passports or other matters, I encourage you to reach out to our offices in Presque Isle, Bangor, Augusta, Portland, or Biddeford. We are here to help and welcome the opportunity to work on your behalf.

Together, I am confident we can continue building a stronger and more prosperous future for our state and nation. Thank you for being one of the many reasons Maine is such a special place. It is truly an honor to serve you and to know you. Mary and I wish you a happy, healthy, and safe 2026.

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
157 Academy Street, Suite A
Presque Isle, ME 04769
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CHELLIE PINGREE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
1ST DISTRICT MAINE

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES, RANKING MEMBER
AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Dear Friends,

As we turn the page to 2026, I want to extend my sincerest well wishes to your entire community—and to share an update on some of my recent work in Washington. My team and I remain wholeheartedly committed to serving the people of Maine's First District with integrity, responsiveness, compassion, and an unwavering belief in the potential of our great state.

Over the past year, I have proudly sponsored and cosponsored several bills focused on improving the lives and livelihoods of my constituents. I worked to strengthen Maine's fishing and coastal communities through legislation that supports sustainable harvests, helps fishing families adapt to changing ocean conditions, and provides credit access to small businesses tied to the industry. I am leading efforts to protect our communities from PFAS contamination through proposals that fund testing, compensate affected farmers, and support remediation research. I continue to support lowering prescription-drug costs for seniors and protecting access to health care for Maine families—including by defending programs that provide coverage and financial relief.

This year has not been without its challenges. From fighting to protect food assistance to pushing back on the Administration's efforts to roll back climate action, my Democratic colleagues and I have been going to bat for our constituents every day.

As ever, my team and I are ready to assist however we can—whether you have questions about Social Security or Medicare, need help with another federal issue, or just want to share your thoughts and perspectives. 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 process, which allows nonprofits and local governments to apply for federal funding for specific projects. For more info, go to pingree.house.gov/communityprojectfunding.

It is my honor to represent you in the U.S. Congress—and to fight for the people and communities that make Maine such a special place to live.

Sincerely,

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

2 PORTLAND FISH PIER, SUITE 304
PORTLAND, ME 04101
PHONE: 207-774-5019
FAX: 207-871-0720



108 MAIN STREET
WATERVILLE, ME 04901
PHONE: 207-873-5713
FAX: 207-873-5717



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

Sally Cluchey

Phone: (207) 287-1430

Sally.Cluchey@legislature.maine.gov

Dear Bowdoinham Neighbors:

As of this writing, we have almost completed the second year of the two-year term, and I want to share an update on what we accomplished in 2025 and the work we have done to lower costs for our community.

In 2025, we delivered real relief for Maine families. We doubled the state child tax credit from \$300 to \$600 per child, provided \$750 per child in rental assistance for families at risk of homelessness, and continued funding free community college for the Class of 2025. We extended this program to future graduating classes in the supplemental budget we recently passed.

I also worked on local priorities. I sponsored legislation directing the state to develop a plan to restore ferry access to Swan Island. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has released its report, and I am now working with my colleagues to implement its recommendations.

My top priority this session is helping make everyday essentials more affordable for working and retired Mainers. The legislature recently passed a supplemental budget that ensures access to health care, provides property tax relief in the face of rising housing costs, provides assistance to help folks heat their homes, and supports workforce development to strengthen Maine's economy in communities across the state. The budget also includes a Millionaires' Tax — a 2% surcharge on annual incomes over \$1 million — which will generate \$91 million in new revenue next year.

Additionally, I introduced a bill to remove barriers that recent federal policy changes created around routine preventive vaccines, ensuring that healthy adults, pregnant women, and children can access clearly recommended vaccines without unnecessary hurdles.

I also want to make sure people are aware of existing state programs that help offset property and sales taxes. The Property Tax Fairness Credit helps low- and moderate-income residents with property taxes or rent and is worth up to \$1,000, or \$2,000 for residents age 65 and older, with higher amounts for eligible disabled veterans. The Sales Tax Fairness Credit helps lower-income households offset sales taxes and is worth about \$270 – \$280, depending on filing status and dependents.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need help applying for these programs or have questions about my work. I can be reached at Sally.Cluchey@legislature.maine.gov and (207) 287-1430.

Sincerely,

Sally Cluchey
State Representative

District 52: Bowdoin (part), Bowdoinham, and Richmond



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 Second Regular Session of the 132nd Maine State Legislature now underway, I'm excited to share updates on our work in Augusta.

I have now been serving as Senate Chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee for over a year. The work my colleagues and I do on this committee is vital to our district. Last session, our priorities included mitigating the PFAS contamination crisis, addressing Maine's struggles with increased solid waste and maintaining Maine's clean air and water. During the off-session, my colleagues and I toured several solid waste-processing facilities around the State to better understand how Maine will address these issues in the future.

I have also been serving as Senate Chair of the Marine Resources Committee, where I have been working to keep ocean-based resources protected for future Maine generations. In this role, I have been committed to supporting our working waterfronts, heritage industries and the families who comprise them, and strengthening our coastal infrastructure to be more resilient to an ever more unforeseeable climate.

In the coming months, my colleagues and I will focus on lowering everyday costs that impact the hardworking families of Maine. We've introduced legislation that protects vulnerable households from utility disconnection, will increase salary supplements to childcare workers and increase the salary threshold for overtime compensation. We upheld our revenue sharing commitment to municipalities and introduced tax credits for housing and several childcare-related areas. Stronger communities are built when we can all afford to live, work and raise a family in Maine and in our district.

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 to 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
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' 2025 Annual Report**



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

STEPHEN M. AUGUST
DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONER CHAIR
BATH & BOWDOINHAM

TODD MCPHEE
DISTRICT 3 COMMISSIONER
ARROWSIC, GEORGETOWN, PHIPPSBURG
RICHMOND, WOOLWICH & WEST BATH

Dear Residents of Sagadahoc County,

FY25 saw several projects and changes within Sagadahoc County.

The Sheriff's Office participated in a culture scan conducted by a third party in which surveys and interviews were used to review policies and make recommendations. Subsequently, a reorganization of command staff meant the hiring of Chief Deputy Jason Warlick, previously Chief of Police in Damariscotta, and the promotion of Corporal Michael Fitzpatrick to Lieutenant. Additional Sergeant positions were added, one in Patrol and one in Transport.

Upon recommendation by the Board of Health, opioid settlement funds were used to create a Community Navigator position to act as a short-term case manager helping people access services provided by other agencies. Opioid settlement funds were also utilized to provide naloxone training and access to Mid Coast Hospital, youth education and substance abuse prevention, and a contribution toward establishing a warming center at the Tedford Shelter.

Sagadahoc County Emergency Management Agency integrated all emergency service personnel into a single tracking system (Salamander), greatly improving turn-around time on reimbursement reports for incidents large and small. SCEMA also received opioid funds for the acquisition of a Crisis Canine, aptly named Chaos, to provide emotional support to people in the midst of an incident. This canine has a uniquely high level of training to be able to do his job and is the only one in the northeastern US.

Upkeep projects on the courthouse included both planned (brick repointing, elevator upgrade) and not exactly unforeseen (flat roof replacement) projects, as well as a truly catastrophic HVAC failure that led to abatement and flooring projects on the first floor. The HVAC failure was covered by the County's insurance.

The Board of Commissioners hosted the Maine County Commissioners' Association annual conference at Sebasco Harbor Resort, which was a resounding success. It was a pleasure to share the history and beauty of our area with our counterparts from around the state.

The construction bond for Two Bridges Regional Jail was paid off December 31, 2025, relieving all jail debt owed by the County. Two Bridges is also in the early stages of forming a collaborative with Knox County, which will streamline services and reduce costs for operating the jail.

In the coming year, the Commissioners remain committed to efficiently delivering quality services to the residents of Sagadahoc County while monitoring the challenges and constraints of each community.

CHARLES E. CROSBY III

STEPHEN M. AUGUST

TODD W. MCPHEE

Commissioners' meetings are held the second Tuesday each month at 3:00 p.m. Commissioners' meeting room, County Courthouse

Outstanding Real Estate Property Taxes

Liens as of April 29, 2026

2023	
Name	Total
CARON, JASON D	\$1,223.50
CUTLER, MICHAEL C	\$184.89
SWITZER, RHONDA J	\$1,148.99
Total - 2023	\$2,557.38

2024	
Name	Total
CARON, JASON D	\$1,575.39
CUTLER, MICHAEL C	\$411.00
NEIMAN, RUSSELL C	\$100.03
POLLARD, KIM	\$162.08
SWITZER, RHONDA J	\$2,167.33
Total - 2024	\$4,415.83

2025	
Name	Total
CARON, JASON D	\$1,540.97
CHASE, KENNETH M JR	\$3,533.07
COLE, JENNIFER R	\$51.89
CUTLER, MICHAEL C	\$376.22
DEPRES, MARK SR	\$1,534.00
GOODALL PROPERTIES-DELAWARE	\$224.05
GUSTAFSON, PAUL E	\$371.17
HALSEY, IAN	\$3,714.30
HEATH, GEORGE MRS	\$3,688.42
JOHNSON, PATRICIA	\$4,078.37
MERRILL, TIMOTHY A JR	\$2,838.75
NEIMAN, RUSSELL C	\$2,136.13
POLLARD, KIM	\$125.13
POMELOW, DONALD E	\$258.63
SEARLES, MICKEY	\$1,079.10
ST JEAN, DAVID O	\$2,491.00
SWITZER, RHONDA J	\$2,147.75
TEMPLE, AARON D	\$2,471.57
VALLEY, JAMES D	\$495.39
Total - 2025	\$33,155.91

Total 2023-2024	\$6,973.21
Total 2025	\$33,155.91
Total Liens as of 04/29/2026	\$40,129.12

Outstanding Personal Property Taxes

as of April 29, 2026

2012	
EAGLE ATM (C/O DELL HOLMAN)	\$178.88

2013	
EAGLE ATM (C/O DELL HOLMAN)	\$46.95

2014	
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$37.49

2015	
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$29.28

2016	
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$19.92

2017	
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$22.56
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$10.98
TOTAL 2017	\$33.54

2018	
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$267.62
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$10.70
TOTAL 2018	\$278.32

2019	
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$260.25
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$10.41
TOTAL 2019	\$270.66

2020	
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$231.89
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$9.28
TOTAL 2020	\$241.17

2021	
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$237.00
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$9.48
TOTAL 2021	\$246.48

2022	
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$213.51
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$10.68
TOTAL 2022	\$224.19

2023	
CAVANDISH, CHRIS	\$204.70
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC.	\$10.24
TOTAL 2023	\$214.94

2024	
CAVENDISH, CHRIS	\$230.49
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC	\$11.53
THREE ROBBERS PUB	\$209.74
TOTAL 2024	\$451.76

2025	
CAVENDISH, CHRIS	\$232.49
HHP ENTERPRISES, LLC	\$11.62
MAINE INSPECTION, LLC	\$183.66
THREE ROBBERS PUB	\$190.64
TOTAL 2025	\$618.41

**Total Outstanding Personal
Property as of 04/29/2026 \$2,891.99**

Auditor's Report

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM, MAINE

*FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT*

*FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
ENDED JUNE 30, 2025*

The following pages are highlights from the FY 2025 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.

Communications with Those Charged with Governance at the Conclusion of the Audit

December 3, 2025

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

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Bowdoinham, Maine (the Town) for the year ended June 30, 2025. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated June 15, 2025. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Town are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year ended June 30, 2025. We noted no transactions entered into by the Town during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the governmental activities financial statements was:

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FAX.(207)667-3636

295 MAIN STREET
P.O. BOX 889
ELLSWORTH, MAINE 04605

Management's estimate of the capital asset depreciation is based on estimated useful lives of the assets at the date of construction or acquisition. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the capital asset depreciation in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated December 3, 2025.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Town's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Town's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to management discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison schedule that required supplements (RSI) the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on combining statements, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to the supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the Members of the Board of Selectmen of the Town, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully Submitted,

James W. Wadman, C.P.A.

James W. Wadman, C.P.A.

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM, MAINE
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

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, 2025. 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, 2025 by \$12,107,174 (presented as “net position”). Of this amount, \$5,496,402 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 \$2,242,922 (a 22.7% increase) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

Fund Highlights:

Governmental Funds – Fund Balances – As of the close of the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the Town's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$7,341,027 with \$1,998,895 being general unassigned fund balance. This unassigned fund balance represents approximately 19% of the total general fund expenditures for the year.

Long-term Debt:

The Town's long-term debt obligations increased by \$269,855 (4.8%) during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. New long-term debt obligations were issued during the fiscal year for a pumper truck purchase in the amount of \$750,000. The finance purchase obligation for the excavator purchased in 2024 was paid off in advance of schedule. 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

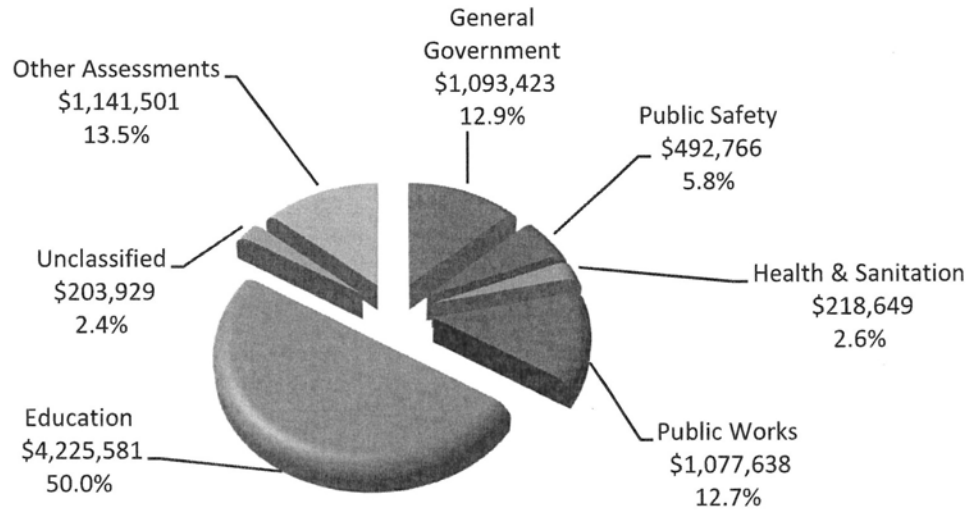
39.4% of the Town's net position reflects its investment in capital assets such as land, buildings, equipment and infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, parking lots and other immovable assets), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The Town uses these assets to provide 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>Assets & Other Debits:</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Total 2025</i>	<i>Total 2024</i>
Current Assets & Other Debits	7,483,386	-	7,483,386	7,859,189
Capital Assets	10,659,358	-	10,659,358	7,767,077
Total Assets & Other Debits	18,142,744	-	18,142,744	15,626,266
<i>Liabilities & Other Credits:</i>				
Current Liabilities & Other Credits	579,648	-	579,648	556,831
Long-Term Liabilities	5,455,922	-	5,455,922	5,205,182
<i>Total Liabilities and Other</i>	<i>6,035,570</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6,035,570</i>	<i>5,762,013</i>
<i>Net Position:</i>				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	4,766,882	-	4,766,882	2,144,457
Restricted	1,843,890	-	1,843,890	2,943,142
Unrestricted	5,496,402	-	5,496,402	4,776,653
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<i>12,107,174</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>12,107,174</i>	<i>9,864,252</i>
Total Liabilities & Net Position	18,142,744	-	18,142,744	15,626,266

Changes in Net Position

Approximately 83 percent of the Town's total revenue came from property and excise taxes, approximately 5 percent came from Federal and State subsidies and grants, and approximately 12 percent came from services, investment earnings and other sources. Depreciation expense on the Town's governmental and business-type activity assets represents \$391,754 of the total expenses for the fiscal year.

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 \$7,341,027, a decrease of \$287,537 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 27 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:

- \$172,068 positive variance in revenues. The Town experienced favorable property collection during the fiscal year in the amount of \$118,629. In addition, the Town received \$117,458 of investment earnings in excess of budget.
- \$350,135 positive variance in expenditures. All departments operated within budget. Overlay on property taxes totaled \$26,338.

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
SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

<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	\$810,867	\$810,867	\$810,867	\$738,765	\$42,000	\$30,102	
Planning & Code Enforcement	\$150,514	\$150,514	\$150,514	\$126,820	\$7,000	\$16,694	
General Services	\$47,000	\$47,000	\$47,000	\$47,539		(\$539)	
Town Facilities	\$106,850	\$106,850	\$106,850	\$98,978	\$3,000	\$4,872	
Capital Improvement Reserve	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500		\$0	
Town Hall & Office Reserve	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000		\$0	
Electronic Equipment	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,500		\$0	
Riverfront Building Reserve	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000		\$0	
Cemetery Reserve	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000		\$0	
	\$0	\$1,185,231	\$1,185,231	\$1,012,103	\$122,000	\$51,128	\$0
<u>Public Safety:</u>							
Fire Department	\$412,008	\$412,008	\$412,008	\$399,045	\$10,000	\$2,963	
Fire Department Reserve	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$85,000		\$85,000	\$0	
Fire Truck Purchase	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000		\$750,000	\$0	
Animal Control / Harbormaster	\$38,809	\$38,809	\$38,809	\$22,584		\$16,225	
	\$0	\$1,285,817	\$1,285,817	\$421,630	\$845,000	\$19,187	\$0
<u>Health & Sanitation:</u>							
Solid Waste & Recycling	\$217,946	\$217,946	\$217,946	\$189,728	\$15,000	\$13,218	
Solid Waste & Recycling Reserve	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	
	\$0	\$222,946	\$222,946	\$189,728	\$20,000	\$13,218	\$0
<u>Education:</u>							
School Assessment	\$4,225,581	\$4,225,581	\$4,225,581	\$4,225,581		(\$0)	
	\$0	\$4,225,581	\$4,225,581	\$4,225,581	\$0	(\$0)	\$0

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM, MAINE
SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

(Exhibit A-1, page 2 of 2)

	<i>Beginning Balance</i>	<i>Appropriations</i>	<i>Total Available</i>	<i>Net Expenditures</i>	<i>Operating Transfers Out</i>	<i>Lapsed Unexpended (Overdraft)</i>	<i>Ending Balance</i>
<i>Public Works</i>							
Operations		\$527,228	\$527,228	\$421,490	\$145,000	(\$39,262)	
Public Works Reserve		\$487,000	\$487,000		\$487,000	\$0	
Road Maintenance		\$83,500	\$83,500	\$87,798		(\$4,298)	
Winter Roads		\$272,800	\$272,800	\$221,074		\$51,726	
	\$0	\$1,370,528	\$1,370,528	\$730,362	\$632,000	\$8,166	\$0
<i>Unclassified:</i>							
Recreation		\$153,864	\$153,864	\$141,533	\$5,000	\$7,331	
Recreation Reserve		\$3,000	\$3,000		\$3,000	\$0	
Agency Requests		\$2,695	\$2,695	\$2,695		\$0	
	\$0	\$159,559	\$159,559	\$144,228	\$8,000	\$7,331	\$0
<i>Other Assessments & Debt Service</i>							
Tax Increment Financing - Pipeline		\$108,476	\$108,476	\$108,210	\$265	\$0	
Tax Increment Financing - CMP		\$569,496	\$569,496	\$72,803	\$496,693	(\$0)	
Debt Service		\$757,361	\$757,361	\$682,454	\$60,000	\$14,907	
County Tax		\$758,178	\$758,178	\$758,178		\$0	
Overlay		\$26,338	\$26,338			\$26,338	
	\$0	\$2,219,849	\$2,219,849	\$1,621,645	\$556,959	\$41,245	\$0
<u>TOTALS</u>	\$0	\$10,669,511	\$10,669,511	\$8,345,276	\$2,183,959	\$140,276	\$0

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, 2025

	<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	\$8,238,515			\$8,238,515
Excise Taxes	\$747,500			\$747,500
State Revenue Sharing	\$462,434			\$462,434
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	\$21,377			\$21,377
Investment Earnings (Losses)	\$217,458		\$56,601	\$274,059
Town Fees and Licenses	\$166,568			\$166,568
Grants, Subsidies and Donations	\$66,942		\$656,158	\$723,101
Solid Waste Revenues	\$102,909			\$102,909
Other Revenues	\$7,875		\$16,426	\$24,301
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>\$10,031,579</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$729,185</u>	<u>\$10,760,764</u>
<i>Expenditures (Net of Departmental Revenues):</i>				
<i>Current:</i>				
General Government	\$1,012,103		\$32,005	\$1,044,108
Public Safety	\$421,630		\$21,905	\$443,534
Health & Sanitation	\$189,728		\$26,053	\$215,781
Education	\$4,225,581			\$4,225,581
Public Works	\$747,503		\$21,943	\$769,446
Unclassified	\$144,228		\$49,943	\$194,171
Other Assessments & Debt Service	\$1,621,645			\$1,621,645
Capital Outlay			\$3,284,035	\$3,284,035
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>\$8,362,417</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$3,435,883</u>	<u>\$11,798,300</u>
<i>Excess Revenues Over Expenditures</i>	\$1,669,162	\$0	(\$2,706,698)	(\$1,037,537)
<i>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</i>				
Finance Purchase Obligation / Bond Proceeds	\$750,000			\$750,000
Operating Transfers In	\$8,581	\$460,586	\$3,210,539	\$3,679,706
Operating Transfers Out	(\$2,283,959)	(\$1,387,167)	(\$8,581)	(\$3,679,706)
<i>Net Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balances</i>	\$143,784	(\$926,580)	\$495,260	(\$287,537)
<i>Beginning Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$2,362,353</u>	<u>\$2,103,928</u>	<u>\$3,162,283</u>	<u>\$7,628,564</u>
<i>Ending Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$2,506,137</u>	<u>\$1,177,347</u>	<u>\$3,657,543</u>	<u>\$7,341,027</u>

Reconciliation to Statement of Activities, change in Net Position

Net Change in Fund Balances - Above				(\$287,537)
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.				(\$64,356)
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.				(\$269,855)
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				(\$27,611)
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 \$391,754.				\$2,892,281

Changes in Net Position of Governmental Activities

\$2,242,922

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

Municipal Budget



FY 2026-2027

2027 Municipal Budget Message

Nicole Briand, Town Manager

To the Citizens of Bowdoinham,

The proposed budget reflects a \$197,814 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 \$161,328 (3.8%), that proposed increase is offset with an increase of \$358,092 (17.2%) in estimated revenues. The three revenue lines showing the most significant growth are Municipal Revenue Sharing (up \$250,000), Automobile Excise (up \$50,000), and Investment Income (up \$25,000).

This budget is designed to sustain the programs and services Bowdoinham residents rely on, while continuing our investments in capital improvements, technology, and our workforce. Our goal remains to deliver the highest level of service possible within the Town's available financial resources.

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, by budgeting a 3% COLA increase and a 2.0% allowance for wage increases based on performance evaluations for all employees. The budget line items show an increase of 5%, because we are adding the 3% COLA to last year's 2% merit raise. The merit raise in addition to the COLA increase is helping us to reach and maintain wages at the median level for the position.

By transitioning our health insurance coverage to Maine Municipal Health Trust, we were able to hold the plan cost increase to 17.68%, down from a projected 25.51%. I've budgeted based on the insurance package each eligible employee is currently taking, because last year we established the Employee Health Benefits Reserve to ensure there are funds available if employees change their plan or staff changes.

Administration

The Administration budget shows an increase of \$27,959 or 3.4%, which includes funding for:

- Wage adjustments and health insurance coverage for part-time employees at 50% of the individual rate.
- Third-party payroll services. The Town has historically processed payroll in-house; however, recent changes in payroll law and increasing software limitations make this approach less sustainable. Transitioning to a third-party provider offers comparable cost to obtaining new software, while also moving us from a paper-based system to a fully digital platform with improved compliance and efficiency.

Third-party tax billing. Outsourcing tax bill processing and mailing is less expensive than handling it in-house and reduces the administrative burden on staff.

Debt Services

The Debt Services Budget shows a decrease of \$6,106, or -0.9%.

2027 Municipal Budget Message con't...

Town Facilities & Maintenance

The Town Facilities & Maintenance budget shows an overall increase of \$28,000, or 26.7%, primarily driven by new cemetery maintenance funding (\$5,000), utility costs for the waterfront and Town Hall (\$12,500 increase), and an increase in hydrant rental (\$10,000).

Fire & Rescue Department

The Fire and Rescue Department budget has a proposed increase of \$22,696, or 5.5%, driven mostly by the change in the Town's health insurance plan.

Animal Control Officer and Harbor Master Department

These department budgets show an overall decrease of \$1,163, or -3.0%. We've reduced expense lines to offset wage adjustments.

Public Works

The Public Works budget shows an overall increase of \$54,315, or 5.9%, which includes funding for wage adjustments and two summer laborers for grounds maintenance, increases in vehicle and building maintenance, and reductions in highway maintenance costs that help offset those increases.

Solid Waste and Recycling

The Solid Waste & Recycling budget shows a proposed increase of \$14,287 (6.4%), reflecting wage adjustments and higher contract costs. Estimated revenues for the department are \$102,000, resulting in a net taxpayer cost of \$137,073.

Community Services

The Community Services budget shows a proposed increase of \$19,929, or 12.4%, primarily due to wage adjustments and program expansion. New program opportunities, such as day camps, are designed to be self-sustaining through registration fees. Estimated department revenues of \$33,550 result in a net taxpayer cost of \$147,224.

Planning & Development

The Planning & Development budget shows a proposed increase of \$1,411, or 0.9% for wage adjustments, which has been offset by a reduction and health insurance costs.

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.

Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Briand
Town Manager

Bowdoinham Municipal Budget Request FY 2026/2027

	FY 22/23 Budget	FY 23/24 Budget	FY 24/25 Budget	FY 25/26 Budget	FY 26/27 Budget Request	Increase/Decrease	Increase/Decrease
Department Expenses							
Administration	633,436	795,740	810,867	824,739	852,698	27,959	3.4%
General Services	56,500	12,000	12,000	14,500	14,500	0	0.0%
Debt Services	486,120	522,671	697,361	702,762	696,656	-6,106	-0.9%
Fire & Rescue Department	111,900	383,900	412,008	413,690	436,387	22,696	5.5%
Town Facilities Maintenance	110,350	119,350	106,850	104,850	132,850	28,000	26.7%
Animal Control/Harbor Master	25,532	27,810	38,809	38,877	37,713	-1,163	-3.0%
Public Works	654,821	807,485	883,528	919,096	973,410	54,315	5.9%
Solid Waste & Recycling	206,472	219,379	217,946	224,787	239,073	14,287	6.4%
Community Services	75,687	121,997	153,864	160,844	180,774	19,929	12.4%
Planning, Development & Codes	137,990	150,266	150,214	157,347	158,758	1,411	0.9%
Contingency	10,000	15,000	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Capital Reserves	132,500	650,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	0	0.0%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,641,309	\$ 3,825,598	\$ 4,123,446	\$ 4,201,492	\$ 4,362,820	\$ 161,328	3.8%
Revenues							
Non-Property Tax Revenues	994,948	1,030,494	1,122,625	1,186,828	1,276,420	153,795	13.0%
Undesignated Fund Balance	100,000	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Homestead Reimbursement	232,000	250,000	310,000	226,500	245,000	18,500	6.0%
Municipal Revenue Sharing	390,000	415,000	550,000	650,000	900,000	250,000	45.5%
BETE Reimbursement	800	3,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	0	0.0%
TOTAL (Non-Property Tax) REVENUES	\$1,717,748	\$ 1,698,494	\$ 1,995,625	\$ 2,076,328	\$ 2,434,420	\$ 358,092	17.2%
NET MUNICIPAL BUDGET	\$ 923,561	\$2,127,104	\$ 2,127,821	\$2,125,164	\$ 1,928,400	\$(196,764)	-9.26%
Organization Requests	37,223	33,412	37,595	39,912	38,862	-1050	-2.6%
NET BUDGET	\$ 960,784	\$2,160,516	\$ 2,165,416	\$2,165,076	\$ 1,967,262	\$(197,814)	-9.14%

Bowdoinham Municipal Budget Request FY 2026/2027 ADMINISTRATION

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
<u>Personnel</u>							
Town Manager Salary	87,000	92,000	102,000	105,060	110,313	5,253	5.0%
Administrative Personnel	171,425	204,880	212,200	228,250	239,627	11,377	5.0%
Allowance for Merit Wage Increases(2%)	3,429	4,098	4,244	6,666	6,999	333	5.0%
Assessing Personnel	35,000	40,000					
Subtotal:	\$296,854	\$340,978	\$318,444	\$339,976	\$356,939	16,963	5.0%
<u>Benefits</u>							
FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	22,709	26,085	24,361	26,008	27,306	1,298	5.0%
Health, Retirement & Benefits	82,614	129,881	133,481	103,635	125,246	21,611	20.9%
Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			1,592	1,700	1,785	85	5.0%
Subtotal:	\$105,323	\$155,966	\$159,434	\$131,343	\$154,337	22,993	17.5%
Subtotal Personnel & Benefits:	\$402,177	\$496,943	\$477,878	\$471,319	\$511,275	39,956	8.5%
<u>Professional Services</u>							
Legal Expense	20,000	85,000	50,000	75,000	75,000	0	0.0%
Maine Municipal Assoc. Dues	4,250	4,500	4,500	4,700	4,750	50	1.1%
Municipal Audit Services	9,500	12,000	12,000	12,500	14,000	1,500	12.0%
IT Services	10,000	10,000	10,000	12,000	10,000	-2,000	-16.7%
Assessing Services	25,000	0	40,000	40,000	30,000	-10,000	-25.0%
Payroll Services					5,000	5,000	
Subtotal:	\$ 68,750	\$111,500	\$116,500	\$144,200	\$138,750	-5,450	-3.8%
<u>Boards & Stipends</u>							
Selectmen's Stipend	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	0	0.0%
Election Stipends	5,300	5,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	0	0.0%
Health Officer	750	750	750	750	750	0	0.0%
Cemetery Sexton	1,000	1,800	2,000	2,250	2,350	100	4.4%
FICA/Medicare (7.65%) & Leave Payroll Tax (0.05%)	1,037	1,113	1,284	1,304	1,312	8	0.6%
Subtotal:	\$ 14,587	\$ 15,663	\$ 17,034	\$ 17,304	\$ 17,412	108	0.6%
<u>Operating Expenses</u>							
Printing & Publications	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	4,500	1,500	50.0%
Election Expenses	7,000	7,000	8,000	7,500	7,500	0	0.0%
Training, Certs & Dues	7,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	7,500	-500	-6.3%
Website Maintenance/Updates	1,640	1,640	3,440	3,440	3,800	360	10.5%
Ordinance Enforcement	200	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Broadcast/Recording	2,900	2,900	2,990	2,900	2,900	0	0.0%
Miscellaneous Expense	500	500	500	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Payroll Service Expense	0	0	0	0			
Mileage Reimbursement	3,000	4,000	4,000	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
Office Supplies	5,000	5,500	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	0.0%
Postage & Bulk Mail	6,500	8,000	8,000	7,500	6,500	-1,000	-13.3%
Registry of Deeds	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 41,740	\$ 45,540	\$ 48,930	\$ 47,840	\$ 48,200	360	0.8%

Bowdoinham Municipal Budget Request FY 2026/2027

ADMINISTRATION con't...

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
<u>Planning Expenses</u>							
Mapping Expense	3,000	4,000	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	0	0.0%
<u>Equipment Maint./Repair</u>							
Equip.Replace/Repair/Computer Maint	4,500	4,500	5,000	4,500	4,500	0	0.0%
Software Licenses and Security	21,960	27,640	32,600	32,000	33,000	1,000	3.1%
Postage Meter-Lease/Purchase	600	600	600	600	500	-100	-16.7%
Copier Lease/Maint. Agreement	7,500	7,500	7,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 34,560	\$ 40,240	\$ 45,200	\$ 42,100	\$ 43,000	900	2.1%
<u>Utilities Expense</u>							
Electricity	5,500	5,500	5,000	5,500	5,500	0	0.0%
Heating Expense	3,500	4,500	4,500	2,500	2,500	0	0.0%
Water Service	1,000	600	500	500	500	0	0.0%
Telephone (& Internet) Expense	6,000	5,000	5,500	5,500	6,250	750	13.6%
Subtotal:	\$ 16,000	\$ 15,600	\$ 15,500	\$ 14,000	\$ 14,750	750	5.4%
<u>Risk Management</u>							
Public Officials Liability	3,571	3,647	3,804	3,681	3,570	-110	-3.0%
Employee Bonding	462	747	705	776	898	121	15.6%
Worker's Comp	16,830	26,706	46,706	40,000	30,000	-10,000	-25.0%
Unemployment	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0.0%
General Liability & Property	9,053	11,299	12,453	14,462	15,893	1,431	9.9%
Vehicle and Mobile Equip Insurance	12,586	20,255	19,058	22,457	22,850	393	1.8%
Fire Dept Ins.	8,520	2,000	2,000	1,500	1,000	-500	-33.3%
Subtotal:	\$ 52,622	\$ 66,254	\$ 86,325	\$ 84,476	\$ 75,811	-8,665	-10.3%
Total Administration Budget	\$633,436	\$795,740	\$810,867	\$824,739	\$852,698	27,959	3.4%

CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
<u>CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS</u>							
Town Hall & Town Office	25,000	90,000	40,000	20,000	14,000	-6,000	-30.0%
Cemetery Maintenance	3,000	15,000	15,000	20,000	20,000	0	0.0%
Solid Waste & Recycling	44,500	15,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Public Works Reserve	26,000	440,000	487,000	512,000	525,000	13,000	2.5%
Capital Improvements	3,500	7,500	7,500	9,500	2,000	-7,500	-78.9%
Fire Reserve	26,000	67,000	85,000	72,000	77,000	5,000	6.9%
Recreation Reserve	4,000	10,000	3,000	2,000			
Riverfront-Yellow Building	500						
Waterfront		2,000	3,000				
Electronic Equipment Reserve Fund		3,500	4,500	4,500	2,000	-2,500	-55.6%
Town Facilities Maintenance Budget:	\$ 132,500	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$650,000	0	0.0%

Bowdoinham Municipal Budget Request FY 2026/2027
GENERAL SERVICES & DEBT SERVICE

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
<u>GENERAL SERVICES BUDGET</u>		-	-	-	-	-	-
General Assistance	4,500	10,000	10,000	12,500	12,500	0	0.0%
Library Appropriation							
Snowbirds Appropriation	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Document Preservation	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Bowdoinham Historical Society							
Ambulance Contract	50,000	0	0	0			0.0%
General Services Budget:	\$ 56,500	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	0	0.0%
<u>DEBT SERVICE BUDGET</u>							
2025 Fire Pumper Truck (MMBB				72,341	70,946	-1,395	-1.9%
2025 Road Refi (MMBB 10yr -				126,660	123,870	-2,790	
2023 Excavator (Andro. 10yr -			31,378	0			
2024 Road Bond (Andro. 10yr -			145,000	0			
2022 Road Bond - (Andro. 10yr -		48,712	48,712	48,712	48,712	0	0.0%
2020 Debt Consolidation Loan	166,184	166,184	166,184	166,184	166,184	0	0.0%
2021 Mallon Brook Stream Cross-	20,508	20,508	20,508	20,508	20,508	0	0.0%
2021 Road & Fire Parking Lot Bond	102,522	102,522	102,522	102,522	102,522	0	0.0%
PW Facil Bond (MMBB 30yr - 1.82-	153,150	151,599	149,994	148,349	146,664	-1,685	-1.1%
2011 Road, PW Truck (MMBB 10yr							
2011 Fire Truck Bond (MMBB 15 yr	17,742	17,657	17,572	17,486	17,250	-236	-1.3%
2013 Lease/Purchase Backhoe	10,525						
2015 Lease/Purchase Loader (Cat	15,489	15,489	15,491				
Debt Service Budget:	\$486,120	\$522,671	\$697,361	\$702,762	\$696,656	-6,106	-0.9%

Bowdoinham Municipal Budget Request FY 2026/2027

TOWN FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
Town Facilities Maintenance		-	-	-	-	-	-
Custodial & Supplies	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,500	500	7.1%
Town Office/Hall Maint & Repair	5,000	7,500	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Town Hall Utilities	5,300	6,000	1,000	3,000	6,500	3,500	116.7%
Waterfront Maintenance & Repair	5,000	15,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Waterfront Utilities	10,800	5,500	5,500	6,500	15,500	9,000	138.5%
Hydrant Rental	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	70,000	10,000	16.7%
Street Lighting	15,000	15,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Memorial Day	750	750	750	750	750	0	0.0%
Riverfront-Yellow Bldg Maint & Utilities	500	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0.0%
Town Landfill (Carding Machine Rd)	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Cemteries					5,000	5,000	
Town Facilities Maintenance:	\$ 110,350	\$ 119,350	\$ 106,850	\$ 104,850	\$ 132,850	28,000	26.7%

ACO/HARBOR MASTER

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
PERSONNEL							
Animal Control Officer Salary	10,628	11,400	15,600	15,912	16,389	477	3.0%
Harbor Master Salary	2,340	2,880	3,630	4,175	5,000	826	19.8%
Earned Paid Leave	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	1,069	1,169	1,586	1,651	1,751	100	6.0%
Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			104	108	114	7	6.0%
Subtotal	\$ 15,037	\$ 16,449	\$ 22,316	\$ 23,238	\$ 24,754	1,517	6.5%
ACO							
Telephone	400	240	240	240	200	-40	-16.7%
Mileage Reimbursement	3,600	3,600	4,000	3,600	3,000	-600	-16.7%
Animal Shelter Contract	4,420	4,631	4,863	5,009	5,009	0	0.0%
Feral Cat/Disposal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Supplies & Equip.	250	250	250	250	250	0	0.0%
Training	400	400	400	300	300	0	0.0%
Subtotal	\$ 9,070	\$ 9,121	\$ 9,753	\$ 9,399	\$ 8,759	-640	-6.8%
HARBOR MASTER							
Training & Membership	525	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Supplies & Equip	800	1,000	1,500	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Telephone	100	240	240	240	200	-40	-16.7%
Navigational/No-wake Aids			4,000	4,000	2,000	-2,000	-50.0%
Subtotal	\$ 1,425	\$ 2,240	\$ 6,740	\$ 6,240	\$ 4,200	-2,040	-32.7%
Animal Control/Harbor Budget:	\$ 25,532	\$ 27,810	\$ 38,809	\$ 38,877	\$ 37,713	-1,163	-3.0%

Bowdoinham Municipal Budget Request FY 2026/2027
FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
<u>Administration</u>							
Fire Chief Salary	20,800	23,565	80,393	84,413	88,634	4,221	5.0%
Fire & Rescue Volunteers	24,000	24,000	28,000	28,000	30,000	2,000	7.1%
Emergency Management Dir.	1,000	1,000					
Allowance for Merit Wage Increases			1,607	1,688	1,773	84	4.8%
Subtotal:	\$ 45,800	\$ 48,565	\$ 110,000	\$ 114,101	\$ 120,407	6,306	5.5%
<u>Support & Benefits</u>							
FICA/Medicare (7.65%)		3,715	8,415	8,729	9,211	482	5.2%
Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			550	571	602	32	5.2%
Health, Retirement & Benefits			35,035	21,870	39,021	17,151	44.0%
Earned Paid Leave	1,000	1,500	0	0	0	0	
Subtotal:	\$ 1,000	\$ 5,215	\$ 44,000	\$ 31,169	\$ 48,834	17,665	56.7%
<u>Operating Expense</u>							
EMS - Ambulance Services		250,000	177,658	186,570	188,545	1,975	1.0%
Training	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Mileage				2,000	500	-1,500	-300.0%
Equipment	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	0	0.0%
Dues/Memberships	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Technology				2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Office Supplies	500	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%
Physicals/Innoculations	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,500	500	14.3%
Radio Purchase & Repair	2,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Personal Protective Clothing	8,500	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	0	0.0%
Equipment Testing	4,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Building Maintenance	8,500	8,500	8,500	8,500	8,500	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 48,500	306,500	234,158	246,070	247,045	975	0.4%
<u>Utilities Expense</u>							
Electricity	3,500	5,000	4,750	4,750	2,500	-2,250	-90.0%
Heating Expense	3,500	5,000	5,000	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
Water Service	400	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%
Telephone & Internet	1,200	3,120	3,600	3,600	3,600	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 8,600	\$ 13,620	\$ 13,850	\$ 12,350	\$ 10,100	-2,250	-18.2%
<u>Vehicle Maintenance</u>							
Diesel	3,000						
Vehicle Maintenance	5,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 8,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Fire & Rescue Department Budget:	\$ 111,900	\$ 383,900	\$ 412,008	\$ 413,690	\$ 436,387	22,696	5.5%

Bowdoinham Municipal Budget Request FY 2026/2027

PUBLIC WORKS

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
Personnel							
Public Works Foreman	56,160	62,400	81,570	85,648	89,930	4,282	5.0%
PW Personnel	133,120	199,680	228,394	239,949	276,142	36,193	15.1%
Allowance for Merit Wage Increase	3,786	\$ 5,242	\$ 6,199	\$ 6,512	\$ 7,321	809	12.4%
Subtotal:	\$ 193,066	\$ 267,322	\$ 316,163	\$ 332,109	\$ 373,393	41,284	12.4%
FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	17,965	24,874	28,685	30,039	33,429	3,390	11.3%
Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			1,875	1,963	2,185	222	11.3%
Health, Retirement & Benefits	88,122	132,655	108,505	101,920	107,111	5,191	5.1%
Subtotal:	\$ 106,087	\$ 157,529	\$ 139,065	\$ 133,923	\$ 142,725	8,802	6.6%
Operating Expense							
Pubs/Training	1,600	1,600	2,000	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Technology				4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Miscellaneous	2,600	2,800	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0.0%
Vehicle Maintenance	20,000	28,000	30,000	35,000	40,000	5,000	14.3%
Tools/Equip/Radios	5,000	5,500	5,500	7,500	7,500	0	0.0%
Supplies				500	500	0	0.0%
Safety, Protect. Cloth & PPE	2,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
Building/Facility Maintenance	7,000	7,000	7,000	8,000	10,000	2,000	25.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 38,200	\$ 47,900	\$ 50,000	\$ 62,000	\$ 69,000	7,000	11.3%
Utilities							
Telephone/Internet	2,000	2,000	1,800	1,800	2,400	600	33.3%
Trash Removal	1,700	1,400	1,200	1,200	1,800	600	50.0%
Electricity	8,000	8,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	0	0.0%
Heating	11,000	12,000	12,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 22,700	\$ 23,400	\$ 22,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 21,200	1,200	6.0%
Highway Maintenance							
Mow/Ditching/Culverts	10,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	0	0.0%
Gravel/Grading/Maintenance	30,000	30,000	25,000	35,000	30,000	-5,000	-14.3%
Signage	1,500	2,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Paving/Surf Maint	30,000	30,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	0	0.0%
Gas/Diesel	14,000	21,500	22,000	22,000	22,000	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 85,500	\$ 93,500	\$ 83,500	\$ 103,500	\$ 98,500	-5,000	-4.8%
Snow & Ice Removal							
Plowing & Sanding Contract(s)	25,000	0					
PW Overtime	41,769	57,834	58,800	60,564	63,592	3,028	5.0%
Road Salt and Sand	100,000	110,000	135,000	130,000	135,000	5,000	3.8%
Gas/Diesel (winter)	17,500	20,000	37,000	32,000	25,000	-7,000	-21.9%
Winter Vehicle & Equip. Main.	25,000	30,000	42,000	45,000	45,000	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 209,269	\$ 217,834	\$ 272,800	\$ 267,564	\$ 268,592	1,028	0.4%
Total Public Works Budget:	\$ 654,821	\$ 807,485	\$ 883,528	\$ 919,096	\$ 973,410	54,315	5.9%

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.

**Bowdoinham Municipal Budget Request FY 2026/2027
Solid Waste & Recycling Dept.**

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
<u>Personnel</u>							
Recycling Personnel	33,142	34,580	35,840	37,653	39,536	1,883	5.0%
Recycling Director	28,997	31,200	39,765	41,776	43,865	2,089	5.0%
Allowance Merit Wage Increases (2%)	1,243	1,316	1,512	1,589	1,668	79	5.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 63,382	\$ 67,096	\$ 77,117	\$ 81,018	\$ 85,069	4,051	5.0%
<u>Support & Benefits</u>							
FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	4,925	5,248	6,052	6,351	6,661	310	4.9%
Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			386	405	425	20	5.0%
Earned Paid Leave	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Health & Retirement Benefits	3,765	3,886	4,266	4,293	4,448	155	3.6%
Subtotal:	\$ 9,690	\$ 10,634	\$ 12,704	\$ 13,049	\$ 13,534	485	3.7%
<u>Operating Expenses</u>							
Training	750	750	750	750	750	0	0.0%
Misc. Expense	3,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance	750	500	500	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Safety and PPE	750	750	750	600	600	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 5,250	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,350	\$ 4,350	0	0.0%
<u>Utilities Expense</u>							
Telephone	650	650	850	720	720	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 650	\$ 650	\$ 850	\$ 720	\$ 720	0	0.0%
<u>Recycling & Disposal Expenses</u>							
Single Stream Contract	33,000	37,000	18,000	18,500	19,000	500	2.7%
General Disposal	1,500	1,500	2,500	2,500	6,000	3,500	140.0%
Curbside Pickup Contract	67,500	68,000	78,075	79,850	83,044	3,194	4.0%
Trash Disposal	24,000	28,500	23,200	23,900	24,856	956	4.0%
Hazardous Waste	1,500	1,500	1,000	900	2,500	1,600	177.8%
Subtotal:	\$127,500	\$136,500	\$122,775	\$125,650	\$135,400	9,750	7.8%
Solid Waste & Recycling Budget:	\$206,472	\$219,379	\$217,946	\$224,787	\$239,073	14,287	6.4%

Note: The Department is estimated to receive revenue in the amount of \$102,000. The net cost to taxpayers for this department is \$137,073.

Bowdoinham Municipal Budget Request FY 2026/2027
COMMUNITY SERVICES

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
<u>Personnel</u>							
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community Services Director	39,468	52,000	70,589	74,116	85,233	11,117	15.0%
Allowance for Merit Wage Increase	789	1,040	1,411	1,482	1,705	222	15.0%
Art Camp Staff				13,250	13,250	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$40,257	53,040	72,000	88,848	100,188	11,339	12.8%
<u>Support & Benefits</u>							
Health/Retirement		33,709	34,656	37,315	39,181	1,866	5.0%
Earned Paid Leave	1,000	0	0	400	400	0	0.0%
FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	3,080	4,058	5,508	6,797	7,664	867	12.8%
Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			360	444	501	57	12.8%
Subtotal:	\$ 4,080	37,767	40,524	44,956	47,746	2,790	6.2%
<u>Operating Expenses</u>							
Misc. Expense	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,500	2,000	500	33.3%
Telephone		240	240	240	240	0	0.0%
Postage	250	100	100	0	0	0	0.0%
Food Service Expense	3,300	3,500	3,000	3,000	3,600	600	20.0%
Recreation Website		3,000	3,000	3,100	3,300	200	6.5%
Recreation Facilities	12,000	9,000	9,000	7,500	7,000	-500	-6.7%
Operating Expenses	\$16,550	16,840	16,340	15,340	16,140	800	5.2%
<u>Athletic Program</u>							
Program Expenses	8,500	8,500	6,500	6,000	6,500	500	8.3%
Athletic Program Expense	\$ 8,500	8,500	6,500	6,000	6,500	500	8.3%
<u>Activities Program</u>							
Activities	3,000	3,000	15,000	1,000	5,500	4,500	450.0%
Art Camp				1,200	1,200	0	0.0%
Activities Expense	\$ 3,000	3,000	15,000	2,200	6,700	4,500	204.5%
<u>Age-Friendly Initiative</u>							
Programs	2,300	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Events			2,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Postage, Printing, Advertising	620	470	250	500	500	0	0.0%
Supplies	380	380	250	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 3,300	2,850	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
Community Services Budget:	\$75,687	121,997	153,864	160,844	180,774	19,929	12.4%

Note: The Department is budgeted to receive \$24,886 in revenue. The net cost of the department to taxpayers is \$147,224.

Bowdoinham Municipal Budget Request FY 2026/2027

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & CODE ENFORCEMENT

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
<u>Personnel</u>							
Planner (30%)	24,500	26,425	23,735	24,922	26,168	1,246	5.0%
Code Enforcement Officer	56,169	62,400	66,275	70,980	75,949	4,969	7.0%
Allowance for Merit Wage Increase (2%)	1,613	1,777	1,325	1,918	2,042	124	6.5%
Subtotal:	\$ 82,283	\$ 90,602	\$ 91,335	\$ 97,820	\$104,159	6,339	6.5%
<u>Support & Benefits</u>							
FICA/Medicare (7.65%)	6,295	6,931	6,987	7,483	7,968	485	6.5%
Health, & Retirement Benefits	42,193	43,233	42,185	42,945	37,500	-5,445	-12.7%
Paid Medical Leave Payroll Tax			457	489	521	32	6.5%
Subtotal:	\$ 48,488	\$ 50,164	\$ 49,629	\$ 50,917	\$ 45,989	-4,929	-9.7%
<u>Operating Expenses</u>							
Telephone	720	500	500	360	360	0	0.0%
Print/Publications				500	500	0	0.0%
Training	1,500	2,500	2,500	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Enforcement	250	250	250	0	0	0	0.0%
Miscellaneous	1,250	1,250	1,000	500	500	0	0.0%
Mileage	1,500	1,500	1,500	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Postage	500	500	500	250	250	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 5,720	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,250	\$ 5,610	\$ 5,610	0	0.0%
<u>Planning Expenses</u>							
Comprehensive Plan	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Planning/Appeals	500	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Subtotal:	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	0	0.0%
Total Planning Budget	\$137,990	\$150,266	\$150,214	\$157,347	\$158,758	1,411	0.9%

CONTINGENCY & ORGANIZATION REQUESTS

	<u>FY 22/23</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 23/24</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 24/25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>FY 26/27</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>	<u>Inc/Dcr</u>
<u>Contingency Budget:</u>							
Contingency	10,000	15,000	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Contingency Budget:	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0	0.0%
<u>Organization Requests</u>							
Library Appropriation	30,000	25,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	0	0.0%
Bowdoinham Historical Society (Merrymeeting Hall Utilities)	5000	5,000	5,000	5,000	4,000	-1,000	-20.0%
Spectrum Generations	1,500	1,650	1,733	1,820	1,820	0	0.0%
The Lifelight Foundation	723	762	762	762	762	0	0.0%
Waldo Community Action Partners		1,000					
Tedford Housing				1,200	0	-1,200	-100.0%
Kennebec Behavioral Health			100	100	1,000	900	900.0%
Maine Public			100	0	0	0	
Big Brothers Big Sister				250	0	-250	-100.0%
New Hope for Women				280	280	0	0.0%
Sweetser				500	1,000	500	100.0%
Organization Requests Budget:	\$37,223	\$33,412	\$37,595	\$38,882	\$38,862	-1,050	-2.6%

BOWDOINHAM FY2025-26 MUNICIPAL BUDGET - ESTIMATED REVENUES

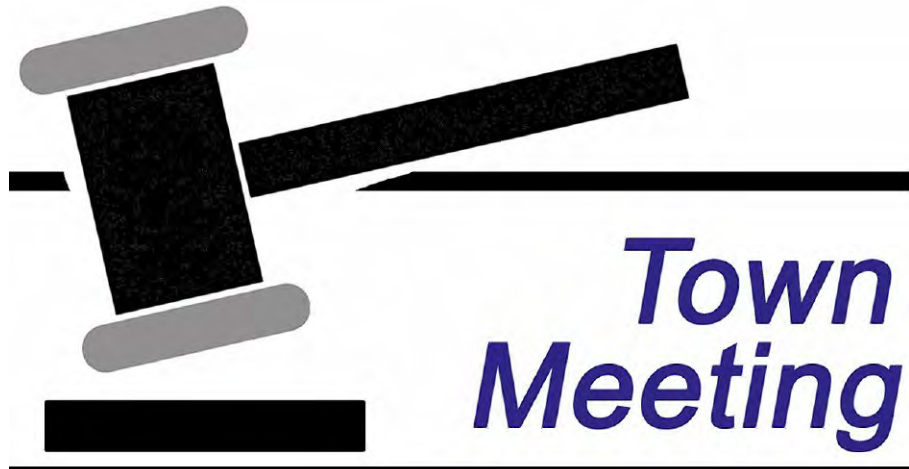
	<u>FY23/24</u>		<u>FY24/25</u>		<u>FY25/26</u>		<u>FY26/27</u>	
	Budgeted Received	Budgeted Received	Budgeted Received	Budget	As of 3/18/26	Budget Request	\$ Inc/Dec	% Inc/Dec
Tax Collector's Revenue								
1 Excise - Boat	6,000	4,589	5,500	5,000	1,412	4,500	-500	-10.0%
2 Excise - Automobile	675,000	721,904	675,000	700,000	521,889	750,000	50,000	7.1%
3 Motor Vehicle Agent Fees	15,000	15,652	15,000	15,000	10,548	15,000	0	0.0%
4 Veterans Reimbursement	3,750	3,750	3,400	3,500	0	3,400	-100	-2.9%
5 Interest on Taxes	25,000	11,059	10,000	11,000	9,406	12,000	1,000	9.1%
6 Total Tax Collectors Revenue	724,750	756,953	708,900	734,500	543,255	784,900	50,400	6.9%
Treasurer's Revenue								
8 Local Road Assistance	36,784	36,784	40,000	43,000	59,684	50,000	7,000	16.3%
9 Snowmobile Reimbursement	750	728	750	700	0	500	-200	-28.6%
10 General Assistance Reimb.	5,000	6,338	4,000	5,000	2,109	5,000	0	0.0%
11 State Park Fees								
12 Tree Growth Reimbursement	9,000	11,447	10,000	15,000	14,159	15,000	0	0.0%
13 Total Treasurer's Revenue	51,534	55,296	54,750	63,700	75,952	70,500	6,800	10.7%
Solid Waste Revenue								
15 General Disposal Fees	2,000	2,280	2,500	2,500	1,346	4,000	1,500	60.0%
16 Solid Waste Tag Fees	100,000	91,311	90,000	90,000	67,730	90,000	0	0.0%
17 Hazardous Waste Disp Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
18 Recyclable Materials Sales	5,000	8,345	8,000	8,000	4,256	8,000	0	0.0%
19 Total Solid Waste & Recycling Revenue	107,000	101,936	100,500	100,500	73,332	102,000	1,500	1.5%
Recreation Revenue								
21 Recreation Advertising	1,500	0	1,000	1,040	0	0	-1,040	-100.0%
22 Recreation Fundraising	3,000	1,000	500	1,050	1,691	1,050	0	0.0%
23 Recreation Food Sales	5,000	5,321	2,500	3,000	0	3,500	500	16.7%
24 Recreation Registration	7,500	6,753	21,000	24,000	28,187	24,000	0	0.0%
25 Recreation Sponsors	3,000	3,459	3,000	3,000	2,261	3,500	500	16.7%
26 Age-Friendly Activities	1,200	1,568	1,000	500	1,288	1,000	500	100.0%
27 Age-Friendly Events			2,000	500	0	500	0	0.0%
28 Total Recreation Revenue	21,200	18,101	31,000	33,090	33,427	33,550	460	1.4%
Local Revenue								
30 Plumbing Permit Fees	6,000	5,160	4,500	5,000	4,355	5,000	0	0.0%
31 Building Permit Fees	7,000	5,925	4,500	5,000	6,106	6,000	1,000	20.0%
32 Ordinance Violations/Fines/Fees	500	298	250	250	495	250	0	0.0%

33	Planning & Appeals Board Fees	3,000	2,550	2,000	5,350	3,000	1,050	3,000	0	0.0%
34	Select Board Licensing	10,000	10,150	5,000	12,264	5,000	1,672	5,000	0	0.0%
35	Public Works	0	874	100	200	100	780	100	0	0.0%
36	MDOT Snow & Ice Agreement			73,665	73,665	75,138	0	76,640	1,502	2.0%
37	Canoe/kayak rental space	810	900	810	900	900	510	1,080	180	20.0%
38	Mooring Fees	700	610	1,000	1,250	1,000	490	1,000	0	0.0%
39	Rentals of Town Property	7,200	7,100	7,200	8,750	7,200	6,050	9,500	2,300	31.9%
40	Fire Station Rental	250	455	400	450	400	300	400	0	0.0%
41	Cemetery Trust Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
42	Worthy Poor Trust Transfer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
43	Cable Franchise Fees	16,500	16,328	16,000	15,313	15,000	14,343	15,000	0	0.0%
44	Property Tax Lien Fees	5,000	3,652	3,000	4,222	3,000	3,017	3,000	0	0.0%
45	Investment Income	60,000	120,671	100,000	192,262	125,000	142,474	150,000	25,000	20.0%
48	Fire Donations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
49	Total Local Revenue	116,960	174,671	218,425	325,540	245,988	181,642	275,970	29,982	12.2%
50	Town Clerk Revenue									
51	IF & W Agent Fees	750	1,158	750	1,261	750	868	1,000	250	33.3%
52	Dog Agent Fees	1,000	1,078	1,000	1,174	1,000	976	1,000	0	0.0%
53	Late Dog Fees	500	1,062	500	1,625	500	225	500	0	0.0%
54	Dog Control Fees		4	0	5	0	0	0	0	0.0%
55	Vital Statistics Fees	1,800	1,954	1,800	2,099	1,800	1,461	2,000	200	11.1%
56	Misc. Revenue	5,000	17,017	5,000	7,736	5,000	3,236	5,000	0	0.0%
57	Total Town Clerk Revenue	9,050	22,272	9,050	13,901	9,050	6,767	9,500	450	5.0%
58	Subtotal Non Property Tax Revenue	1,030,494	1,129,231	1,122,625	1,316,293	1,186,828	914,374	1,276,420	89,592	7.5%
59	Undesignated Fund Balance Transfers to									
60	Undesignated FB Transfer to Offset Taxes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
61	Total Non-Property Tax Rev	1,030,494	1,129,231	1,122,625	1,316,293	1,186,828	914,374	1,276,420	89,592	7.5%
62	Property Tax Related Revenues									
63	Homestead Reimbursement	250,000	310,615	310,000	342,090	226,500	187,869	245,000	18,500	8.2%
64	Municipal Revenue Sharing	415,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	650,000	502,959	900,000	250,000	38.5%
65	BETE Reimbursement	3,000	148	13,000	12,922	13,000	10,338	13,000	0	0.0%
66	Total Property Tax Related Revenue	668,000	860,764	873,000	905,012	889,500	701,166	1,158,000	268,500	30.2%
67	Total Revenues	1,698,494	1,989,995	1,995,625	2,221,305	2,076,328	1,615,540	2,434,420	358,092	17.2%

Notes: Homestead and BETE Reimbursement are determined when tax rate is set.

FY 2026-2027

Warrant



June 10, 2026 at 6 pm

Bowdoinham Community School Gym

**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 10, 2026, at 6:00pm**, then and there to act on Articles 1 through 46 as set out below.

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

ORDINANCES

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

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

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

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

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

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

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT & FUND BALANCE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to accept a section of Pratt Road beginning at the end of the public portion of Pratt Road, which public portion begins at Post Road and ends at a point adjacent

to the northern boundary of Map R03, Lot 52, and ending at the northern edge of a turnaround installed in the summer of 2014 on the eastern side of said Pratt Road and measuring approximately 24 feet in width and approximately 50 feet in length which is approximately +/- 0.19 miles from the terminus of said public portion of Pratt Road. The +/- 0.19-mile section of Pratt Road proposed to be accepted is depicted on Exhibit A attached hereto.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer to apply, on behalf of the Town, for federal financing assistance under the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, Public Law 88-578 for the development of Waterfront and Recreation Improvements; authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into the Land and Water Conservation Fund Project Agreement with the State subsequent to federal approval of the project; further authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate up to \$805,000 from the CMP/Riverfront TIF Fund and Rideout Memorial Reserve Fund for all or part of the local share of the project cost.”

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

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

EXPENSE BUDGET ARTICLES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION REQUESTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

REVENUE BUDGET ARTICLE

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

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

BUSINESS ARTICLES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


Given unto our hands the 28th day of April 2026.

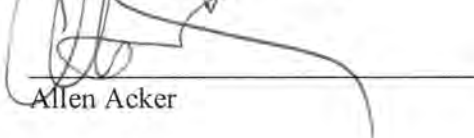
Select Board
Town of Bowdoinham


Joanne Joy, Chair


Mark Favreau, Vice-Chair


Jason Hodde


Shelley Hooper


Allen Acker

Witness to All:


Nicole Briand, Town Manager

A Year in Our Town

