

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14TH, 2026
PORT AUTHORITY BUILDING - DOWNSTAIRS – 6:00 p.m.

Those In attendance: Council President William Boone, Councilor David Morang, Councilor Rhonda Stevens, Councilor Colleen Dana-Cummings Councilor A. J. Seeley City Manager Brian Schuth, City Clerk Ella Kowal, City Legal Counsel Dennis Mahar, Administrative Assistant Sarah Mutter. See attached sign in sheet for members of the public.

I. Call to Order

II. Nomination and Appointment of Council President – Calendar Year 2026 (Recording 0:08)

(City Clerk calls for Nominations)
To nominate William Boone

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Stevens (Passed 4-0)

City Clerk turns the meeting over to the appointed Council President (Recording 0:58)

III. Nomination and Appointment of Vice Chair of Council – Calendar Year 2026 (Recording 1:41)

To nominate Rhonda Stevens

MOTION: Morang **SECOND:** Dana-Cummings (Passed 4-0)

IV. Adjustments to Agenda (Recording 2:17)

To add item VIII u. to schedule liquor license hearing for the Old Sow
To add item VIII v. to accept resignation of Don Bailey from Budget Committee
To add item VIII w. appointment of Sarah Mutter as Deputy Treasurer

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Stevens (Passed 5-0)

V. Public Open Forum (Recording 4:17)

VI. Public Hearings (Recording 4:38)

- a. Liquor License Renewal for MA Trott, LLC d/b/a Happy Crab, 35 Water St.
- b. New Liquor License for Jeffery Gauthier d/b/a Blackbeards, 171 Water St.

VII. Action on Public Hearings (Recording 5:20)

To approve the liquor license renewal for MA Trott, LLC d/b/a Happy Crab

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Morang (Passed 5-0)

To approve the new liquor license for Jeffery Gauthier d/ b/ a Blackbeards

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Morang (Passed 5-0)

VIII. New Business

- a. Appointment of City Council members for Signing of Warrants – Year 2026
(Recording 7:26)

To move that all council members be authorized to sign warrants

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Dana-Cummings (Passed 5-0)

- b. *To establish Depository Banks for City Funds/The First & Bangor Savings – Year 2026*
(Recording 8:26)

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

- c. *To accept staff Appointments for Calendar Year 2026 as presented and submitted and amended to add Sarah Mutter as Deputy Treasurer* **(Recording 9:00)**

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

- d. *To appoint Auditor - RHR Smith* **(Recording 12:39)**

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Stevens (Passed 5-0)

- e. *To accept appointment of Legal Counsel/ City Solicitor - Rudman Winchell and amended to also retain Dennis Mahar* **(Recording 13:56)**

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Dana-Cummings (Passed 5-0)

- f. *To approve City Treasurer, Camela Deschene, to Negotiate & Execute Quit Claim Deeds*
(Recording 22:44)

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

- g. Council Liaison Appointments for Calendar Year 2026 (See Attached) **(Recording 23:50)**

To make the following appointments:

Ambulance – Stevens

Airport – Boone

Budget – Seeley

Cemetery – Boone, pending determination that this committee will continue to meet

Charter Review – Stevens

Deer – Morang

Fiber – not assigned, pending determination of whether this committee is disbanded

Economic Development – Dana-Cummings

Energy – not assigned due to timing issue for all committee members
Harbor – Morang
Historic Review Board – Stevens
Eastport Housing – not assigned, disbanded four months ago
Marion Transfer – City Manager
Microloan – Dana-Cummings
Planning – Morang
Port Authority – Boone, City Manager
Recycling – Stevens
School – Dana-Cummings
Senior Citizens – Boone
Shellfish – Seeley
Zoning Board of Appeals – Boone, City Manager

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

- h. *To establish a 0% Discount Rate for Pre-Payment of FY2027 Taxes (Recording 34:41)*

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Morang (Passed 5-0)

- h. a. *To accept pre-payments of taxes for FY2027*

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

- i. Approval of Sewer Commitment – 3rd QTR – FY2026 for January 12th, 2026 Billing
(Recording 37:30)

No motion. Carried to next meeting.

- j. *To appoint Election Clerks and Ballot Clerks for 2026 (Recording 39:06)*

Donna, Thayer, Theresa Mealey, April Theriault, Leita O'Brien, Camela Deschene, Judith Peters, Christine Cox, Julie Leppin, Cindy Mitchell, Vicki Morang, Peter Frewen, Jean Schild, and Jeanne Pegrum

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Stevens (Passed 4-0, Morang abstains)

- k. Council Approval of Re-Appointments and/or New members to
Boards/Committees **(Recording 39:54)**

- i. *To re-appoint Chris Bartlett, Greg Biss, George "Butch" Harris, Lee Harris, Angus McPhail, Dean Pike and Earl Small to Harbor Committee (Recording 40:02)*

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Stevens (Passed 5-0)

- ii. *To re-appoint Ed French, Catherine Lee, Jean Ries, Jean Schild, and Alden Chandler to the Historic Review Board (Recording 40:39)*

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

- iii. *To re-appoint Michael Morse, Bob O'Hayer, Stephen Collins, Hugh French, Greg Godon, and Dan Ronga/ Associate Member to the Planning Board (Recording 41:22)*

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Stevens (Passed 5-0)

- iv. *To re-appoint Samra Kuseybi, Beth Clifford, Sally Claroni, Becca Hammond, Chip Hammond, Dave Dineen, Stephanie Thomas, and James Oberly to Recycling Committee (Recording 42:26)*

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Morang (Passed 5-0)

- v. *To re-appoint Karen Farris, Leo Kowal, Greg Noyes, and Robert Peacock to the Zoning Board of Appeals (Recording 43:55)*

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Dana-Cummings (Passed 5-0)

- vi. *To re-appoint Loring Small, Gary Small, Will Urquhart, and James Young to Shellfish Committee (Recording 44:32)*

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

- l. **Appointment of Jenie Smith & Rachel Williams to Budget Committee 3-Year terms – 07/01/2026-06/30/2029 (Recording 44:59)**

To appoint Jenie Smith & Rachel Williams to Budget Committee 3-Year terms running from 07/01/2026 to 06/30/2029 and to appoint Heron Westin to a 2-Year term running from 07/01/2026 ending 06/30/2028, and to accept the resignation of Don Bailey.

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

- m. *To approve Perpetual Care Lots listed below: (Recording 49:30)*

- i. Lenore Buehner – Bayside West, Section E, Lot #19 - \$300.00
- ii. Patrice Goodwin – Bayside West, Section E, Lot #6C - \$150.00

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

- n. *To approve Certificate of Deposit Rollover w/ Bangor Savings Bank - \$12,027.28 (9 months @ 3%) (Recording 50:09)*

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Dana-Cummings (Passed 5-0)

- o. *To approve Airport Community Day on June 20th, 2026 (Recording 51:46)*
MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)
- p. *To approve Renewal for Vessel Liquor License – Compagnie DuPonant, SASU, October 12th & 13th (Times TBD) (Recording 52:23)*
MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)
- q. *To accept the Policy for Marketing and Sale of Foreclosed/Tax Acquired Properties (Recording 1:05:41)*
MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Dana-Cummings (Passed 5-0)
- r. Discussion of Public Hearing for a Year Round Food Trailer (02/11/2026), New Victualer License – Alan Skinner (**Recording 54:38**)
 City manager will work with Alan and Chrissy to discuss ordinance updates.
- s. Proposed Liquor License Application Policy (**Recording 1:14:45**)
 Tabled to February.
- t. Discussion of Proposed HR Policy (**Recording 1:17:16**)
 Tabled to February.
- u. *To schedule public hearing for the Old Sow liquor license renewal for February 11 City Council Meeting (Recording 1:18:23)*
MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Dana-Cummings (Passed 5-0)

IX. Minutes of Previous Meetings (Recording 1:19:10)

- a. *To approve Minutes from November 12th, 2025 Regular Meeting (Recording 1:19:15)*
MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Stevens (Passed 5-0)
- b. *To approve Minutes from December 10th, 2025 Regular Meeting (Recording 1:19:56)*
MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Morang (Passed 5-0)

X. City Manager’s Report (Recording 1:20:17)

No action taken

XI. Council Liaison Updates and Issues (Recording 1:32:43)

No action taken

XII. Executive Session (Recording 1:39:20)

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personnel Matters | Title 1 MRSA §405(6)(A) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real Property or Economic Development | Title 1 MRSA §405(6)(C) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Labor Negotiations | Title 1 MRSA §405(6)(D) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation with Legal Counsel | Title 1 MRSA §405(6)(E) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poverty Abatement Application | Title 36 MRSA §841 |

To go into executive session for the above noted purposes at 7:39 p.m.

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

To come out of executive session at 8:27 p.m. (Recording 1:40:41)

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

XIII. Action from Executive Session (Recording 1:41:04)

To approve the repurchasing agreement for 12 Chapel Street tax lot number I7-0B1-14 for all taxes and sewer

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

To approve the repurchasing agreement for 2 Clark Street tax lot number H7-0A4-17 for all taxes and sewer

MOTION: Stevens **SECOND:** Seeley (Passed 5-0)

XIV. Adjournment (Recording 1:43:25)

To adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

MOTION: Dana-Cummings **SECOND:** Stevens (Passed 5-0)

CITY OF EASTPORT

ATTENDANCE SHEET:

(for Eastport Regular City Council Meeting of Wednesday, January 14th, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. – Port Authority Building)

City Council Members:

Councilor, William Boone
Councilor, Colleen Dana-Cummings
Councilor, Dave Morang
Councilor, Rhonda Stevens
Councilor, Alvah Seeley (III)

X
X
X
X
X

City Manager: Brian Schuth / X /
Legal Counsel: Dennis Mahar / X /
City Clerk: Ella Kowal / X /
Deputy Clerk: Donnie Peters / X /
Sarah Mutter

AUDIENCE:

(Signature)	(Print Name)	(Address)
	CATHERINE LEE	3 JENSEN ST. / QTIDB3
	Winnie Lee	Winnick Lake Waterville ME
	JEFF GARRISON	2 BATTERY ST.
	Donna Murphy	13 Middle
	Victoria	64 Ky St
	Laurie Stove	14 Clark
	Christina Turner	54 Shackford St.
8)		
9)		
10)		
11)		
12)		
13)		
14)		
15)		
16)		
17)		