

TOWN OF JEFFERSON PLANNING BOARD
Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2026

Members Present: Bill Farren (Chair), Joan Jackson, Gary Olsen, Joe Russano

Members Absent: Dana Clark

Others Present: Tom Kirvan, Mose Miller, Henry Miller, Bruce Sedgwick

Chair Bill Farren called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Bill shared the May 5, 2026 meeting minutes and provided an update on Action Items.

Bill moved to **APPROVE** the minutes as submitted. Second by Gary. All in favor, 4-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mose and Henry Miller asked what is needed to establish a family burial ground on their property.

The town office had alerted Bill of their inquiry so he had time to do some research. Bill advised that a family cemetery could be created given certain considerations: 1) Not greater than ¼ acre, 2) clearly marked boundaries, 3) at least 100' from residence, 4) at least 200' from domestic well water and 5) recorded at the Lincoln County Registry of Deeds. A sample deed was provided.

It was also noted that once a person is buried, the plot becomes a permanent, protected burial ground, making it exempt from being seized for debts and ensuring heirs have access to it forever. And, if the property is sold, the burial ground must be disclosed on the deed so the new owner is aware of the site.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposal for Family Member Service on Municipal Boards Ordinance.

As requested by town resident Bruce Sedgwick and directed by the Select Board, the Planning Board wrote a new ordinance concerning Family Member Service on Municipal Boards. Also drafted were a warrant article and a one-page information sheet to help explain the ordinance. Only minor edits were noted during a reading of the materials.

Bill moved to **FORWARD** the ordinance, warrant article and information sheet to the Select Board at their June 15th meeting. Second by Gary. All in favor, 3-0-1

William Farren (Map 043 Lot 014-2), 47 Kinney Lane

Bill recused himself from the Planning Board as this was his application. Bill described the project as building steps around the left side of the house to help navigate a steep rock slope. The steps are well outside the critical 100' setback line from Damariscotta Lake and also meets the side setback.

Joe moved to **APPROVE** the permit as requested. Second by Gary. All in favor, 3-0-1

OLD BUSINESS

Proposal for Septic System Inspection for Shoreland Zone Properties

Bill attended the June 1 Select Board meeting to seek assurance from the Select Board that they will support this ordinance as a warrant article for a future town vote.

Bill provided a detailed pitch deck to explain why this ordinance is needed and described what the ordinance is and how it would work:

- It would bring an existing state law that requires inspections of septic systems in the shoreland zone upon property transfer to the local level and add the requirement to file the associated state inspection form with the town's Licensed Plumbing Inspector.
- It would require recurring inspections of septic systems in the shoreland zone every 5 years.
- It would seek funds from the town to reimburse property owners for the inspections. It would suspend the recurring inspection if sufficient funds were not available.

After discussion, the Select Board did not provide its consent and asked that more information be provided regarding the town's liability for failed septic systems and how would it be enforced.

Action Item: Bill to research the Select Board's questions with the city of Auburn and the town of Lovell who are working on a similar tract.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bill provided a brief update on the following inquiries he dealt with since the last Planning Board meeting:

- Inquiry on Map 030-Lot 003 (320 Hinks Rd)
- Inquiry on Map 012 Lot 28A (Hinks Rd by Snow Pond)
- Inquiry on Map 027 Lot 002 (Gardiner Rd)
- Cell tower contract

ADJOURNMENT

Bill moved to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 7:05 PM. Second by Joan. All in favor 4-0.
Next meeting: July 7, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the town office.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill

Bill Farren, Chair

William Farren

William Farren

Dana Clark

Absent

Joan Jackson

Joan Jackson

Gary Olsen

Gary Olsen

Joe Russano

Joseph Russano