

**Kingfield Selectmen Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday May 26, 2026; 6:00 PM Webster Hall 38 School Street**

**Attendance**

**Municipal Officers:** Wade Browne, Kim Jordan, Morgan Dunham, Hunter Lander, and Chris Rushton

**Municipal Staff:** Leanna Targett (Town Manager)., Travis Targett (Wastewater Superintendent)

**Public:** Diane Christen, Audrey Tague, Rob Woodhouse, Richard Hawkes, Robin Konieczko, Tom Wiecek, Barbara Wiecek, Claudia Diller, Julie Swain, Jillian Monahan, Valarie Cheimis, Lillian Cheimis, Chuck Leblanc, Kristine Leblanc

**Zoom:** John Gause, AFL, Juliet Broen, Catherine Martin, Dave Davol, John Simoneau, Kristin Collins

**Absent:** None

Chairman Lander calls the meeting to order. The only item of business is to review and discuss the petition for moratorium.

TM, Targett reads a letter that had just been received from Bowdoin. Part of which reads: *"After hearing concerns raised by members of the public about the adequacy of the Town's existing ordinances to review impacts associated with the Project, we believe the best course for the Town and the public is for us to voluntarily withdraw our pending application and commit to not refiling it for at least six months.*

*Accordingly, please accept this as our formal request to withdraw our application that is currently pending before the Planning Board.*

*This pause on the permitting will allow the Town time to review its ordinances and ensure they are adequate to review this type of facility. While we believe the Town's existing ordinances are comprehensive and adequate to review the Project, this pause will also allow for more deliberate and substantive dialogue with stakeholders to ensure that Bowdoin fully understands and is able to address some of the concerns expressed during the Planning Board review process."* ...

Selectman Browne indicates that he would like to try to make something happen for the owners at Ira. He says, If we need to send the moratorium through that will give us 180 days to produce a plan of what everybody's concerns are. Selectman Browne says I think if 180 days is not sufficient then we should end it in 180 days because I do not think you are going to be able to dot every "i" in this conversation.

Selectman Dunham asked if Bowdoin withdraws their application, then "there's nothing to base the moratorium on, correct?"

Selectman Browne says that the transient overnight recreational development wording is not in our current ordinance which would affect Airbnb's, rental properties, campsites forever, everything that goes along with that.

TM Targett says with the letter Bowdoin has rescinded their application and will not resubmit for at least six months. But in the meantime, you do need to act on the petition. I believe that Bowdon has done this as a faith gesture and now that makes your decision easier. Bottom line is do you just want to send this to the people? We would now have 180 days to work on this. Bowdoin knows we have got 180 days. I think Bowdoin has lightened your decision.

Selectman Rushton notes that his issue with the whole project was safety and the bridge, And he does not see a way of getting around that.

Selectman Browne stated that there are essentially two things the town has no control over, the bridge and Route 27. Selectman Browne says both sides are concerned with safety however there is no way to make Route 27 and wider or make the owner of the bridge widen it to two lanes.

Selectman Browne stated that a temporary solution might be to stop all development in the Ira Mountain area until the bridge is fixed. Selectman Lander agrees with this.

Selectman Rushton asked whether the town would consider taking over the bridge. TM Targett says she does not believe so because it would take at least \$1million to replace the bridge. She does not believe the state would take ownership either.

Selectman Rushton states that he has concerns that residents are in danger. Selectman Browne stated that the residents were aware of that when they bought their properties in IRA.

Selectman Jordan states that she feels that we have been gifted with this opportunity to fix our ordinances and suggest that the Planning Board consider meeting more frequently to get it done in the 180 days.

Selectman Rushton asks TM, Targett to contact DOT to ask about performing an updated traffic count.

Attorney Collins stated that she thinks this letter changes nothing in the sense that the Select Board's job is to look at whether this moratorium is legally justified based on need, based on the criteria and the statute about whether there is a need that is not addressed in the current ordinances. She goes on to say that it is not the Bowdoin application specifically. Attorney Collins then asks the board if they think there is justification that these transient campgrounds are something not adequately addressed in the ordinance currently. Attorney Collins adds that there would be nothing keeping you from going down this path and changing the ordinance as you feel is necessary, moratorium or no moratorium.

Selectman Rushton makes a motion to move forward with the petition and to send to voters. Seconded by Selectman Dunham. All in Favor.

TM, Targett requests that the board set a date for public hearing and an open town meeting vote. Board sets July 6<sup>th</sup> for a public hearing with limits on public comments and July 13<sup>th</sup> for a special town meeting vote.

Selectman Dunham makes a motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Selectman Browne. All in Favor.

*\*The minutes provided above are a summary. The Town meets record management requirements and retention schedules by maintaining permanent records of electronic recordings of meetings to satisfy the requirements of §403-A. Minutes by Leanna Targett.*