

Town of Brunswick, Maine

Shellfish Committee
January 6, 2025, 6:30 P.M.

MEETING AGENDA

Town Hall – Council Chambers
85 Union Street, Brunswick, Maine

The public can view, listen, and participate in the following ways.

- Television: Channel 3 on TV3 (Channel 3 on Comcast)
- Stream: [Television 3 Link](#)
Live in the Council Chamber and via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84438454538?pwd=actEV5U0xZbxhNtn5yc0Dcad9lu4J.1>

Conflict of Interest Policy

Members shall declare potential conflicts at the start of the meeting or prior to any item.

Roll Call of Members

Notice of Meeting

Warden Report: None

Coastal Resource Office Updates:

- Harvesting Reporting Request
- Fishermen's Forum
- GIS Shellfish Management Mapping
- Northeast Aquaculture Conference and Exposition
- Creating a Nitrogen Loading Model
- Maine Seagrass Summit
- Simpson Point Rehabilitation
- CBEP Grant (Manomet LOS)
- Update on Maquoit Bay Sanitary Survey
- Recap State Shellfish Advisory Council (11/21 Meeting)
- Conservation Closure
- Maine DEP Watershed Manager Meeting
- Shellfish Inventory Surveys Remaining

Town Clerk Updates:

- Update on Council action on proposed ordinance

Meetings: None

Minutes: September 3, 2025; October 7, 2025; November 5, 2025

Adjustments to the Agenda

Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

Public comments at the beginning of the meeting are for non-agenda items and are limited to three minutes per speaker, with a total of 30 minutes.

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2026

2. Discussion on the ability of resident commercial harvesters to move out of town.
(Discussion)

This item is to take comments from the Commercial Harvesters on their reasons to support or not support the ability for resident harvesters to move out of town. Each harvester will have one chance, up to 3 minutes, to speak on this subject.

3. Winter Shellfish Closure Harvester Survey Results and determining if there will be any closures. (Action)
4. Discussion of Sunday closures for 2026 (Discussion)
5. Presentation on shellfish survey results (Presentation)
6. NEW BUSINESS
7. OLD BUSINESS
8. Set February meeting agenda

To email Shellfish Committee: fsmith@brunswickme.gov

**Shellfish Committee
Agenda Notes
January 6, 2026**

Roll Call of Members/ Notice of Meeting

Chair Sellers-Reynold will open the meeting, ask for a role call, and ask if the meeting was properly noticed.

Warden Report:

N/A – Unavailable

Coastal Resource Office:

Coastal Resources Manager Devereaux will provide this report. A copy of his memo will be provided before the meeting.

Town Clerk Updates:

Clerk Smith will update the Committee on Council action regarding the ordinance amendments and next steps. She will announce dates for intents for 2026 along with confirming that Meeting dates will continue to be the first Tuesdays of the month.

Meetings: None listed in the agenda

Minutes:

The draft minutes are attached to the packet for your review and approval.

Suggested motion:

Motion to approve the minutes of September 3, 2025; October 7, 2025; and November 5, 2025.

Public Comments:

Comments will be allowed for thirty minutes, with each speaker being allowed three minutes in total for non-agenda items. (The Committee will follow the Council Procedures on Public Comments.)

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2026

This item is for the annual election of a chair and vice chair for 2026. Clerk Smith will take nominations for chair and once elected, the new chair will do the same for vice chair.

**2. Discussion on the ability of resident commercial harvesters to move out of town.
(estimate time – 45 minutes) (CARRY OVER FROM DECEMBER)**

This item is for collecting comments from Commercial Harvesters regarding their opinions on whether resident harvesters should be allowed to move out of town. Each harvester will have one opportunity to speak for up to 3 minutes on this topic. The Committee will discuss possible options. Staff will compile the comments to share with Council leadership and gather their thoughts on whether to allow residents to move out of town and maintain their license. Included in your packet is information about what other communities are doing. Included in your packet is information about what other communities are doing. Additionally, if moving is limited to senior harvesters, staff gathered historical data on how long 30 current Class A harvesters have held their licenses over the past 30 years. The table below shows the breakdown of this data.

Held licenses for 30 of last 30 yrs	Held licenses for 28/29 last 30 years	Held licenses for 20 of last 20 years	Held licenses for 18/19 of last 20 years
13	2	18	6

3. Winter Shellfish Closure Harvester Survey Results and determining if there will be any closures. (Action) (estimate time –30 minutes) (CARRY OVER FROM DECEMBER)

This item comes back tonight due to time constraints at the last meeting. A copy of the survey results is attached to the packet. The Committee will determine if they would like to move forward on any winter closures at this time.

THESE ARE THE NOTES FROM LAST TIME: You will find attached the results of this survey, which was either emailed or mailed to each harvester. The link to the survey is [available here](#). Quahogs are routinely closed each year from January to April in accordance with the ordinance. Below is a table of diggable tides between January 1 and April 1. The committee can determine what action, if any, they would like to take.

January						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2	2	2	3	2	2	2
February						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2	2	2	2	2	3	1
March						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
3	4	2	2	2	2	3

4. Discussion of Sunday closures for 2026 (Discussion) (estimate time –15 minutes)

Following the Council's update to the ordinance removing the prohibition on Sunday harvesting, the Committee stated they would review this topic at the start of each year to decide whether any Sunday closures are warranted. This is an appropriate time for that discussion to determine if any future action needs to occur.

5. Presentation on shellfish survey results (Presentation) (*estimate time –15 minutes*)

CRM Devereaux will provide this presentation on the results of the most recent survey.

6. NEW BUSINESS

This item is an opportunity for Committee members to bring up new business items not included in this agenda.

7. OLD BUSINESS

This item is an opportunity for Committee members to bring up old business items.

8. Set February meeting agenda

This item sets the agenda for the February 2026 meeting. The major item will be to set license numbers of recommendations for the Council.